UN chief calls for international peacekeeping force

STORY BELOW, COLUMN 2

God joins gentxt

4 God so luvd d wrld...
HOLY TEXT!?

By A. N. Nocum

THE ARCHDIOCESE of Manila has joined the text messaging craze by launching "catextism," a program that aims to spread God's word via "texting" in mobile phones.

GOD/A19

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLE[illegible] VIEWS

TODAY IN THE Sunday INQUIRER Magazine

- ▨ Pilita Corrales' new love
- ▨ Lana Asanin sizzles
- ▨ Jun-Jun Ablaza's grand designs

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph April 14, 2002 ★ 88 pages / 7 sections / vol.17 / no. 125 P15 website: www.inq7.net

Tiglao takes a break, a bride

MR. AND MRS. RIGOBERTO TIGLAO, nee' Getsy Selirio at the Wine Club in Clark, Angeles City, Pampanga, where the hush-hush, rush-rush civil wedding rites were held yesterday morning. The newlyweds fly to Japan on Monday for their honeymoon and to fulfill Tiglao's commitment to Kyoto University as a visiting professor.

TRUE, he had a commitment to a teaching fellowship in Japan. Which Press Secretary Rigoberto "Bobi" Tiglao had publicly announced was the reason he was going on leave for three to six months.

What he didn't say was that he was in love.

At hush-hush civil rites, Tiglao, 49, and Gethsemane "Getsy" Selirio, 38, Inq-7 editor in chief, were married at the Wine Club in Clark, Angeles City, Pampanga, shortly before noon yesterday.

But in Malacañang, Tiglao's irrepressibly romantic boss, President Macapagal-Arroyo, blurted out the other reason behind Tiglao's sudden leave.

While posing with representatives of market vendor cooperatives, the President called out to guests, reporters and photographers, "Do you know that Bobi Tiglao is getting married?"

Last night, the President hosted an intimate dinner for the newlyweds at the Palace. Tiglao said they would have a church wedding "as soon as I get back."

The President has agreed to be one of the wedding sponsors.

Tiglao had only informed the President a few hours before the nuptial rites officiated by Court of Appeal Associate Justice Remedios Fernando with her husband, Judge Joner Fernando, and Tiglao's cousin, Rene Caguiat, as witnesses.

It was also a rush-rush affair as Tiglao and his new wife leave for Japan on Monday. His bride did not have the time to have a designer's gown made. She bought an off-the-rack, off-white flowing gown with spaghetti straps with a local label (Pour Elle) at Cinderella.

"It looks exactly like the wedding gown of Carolyn Bisset-Kennedy. Bobi liked it very much. He said it's sexy," said the tall, fair and very pretty Selirio.

She wore three carnations in her hair and silver shoes from Liliw, Laguna, a gift from her mother, Rosalina, a retired teacher, like her father Benedicto, from UP-Los Baños.

It was strictly a family affair with Tiglao's children, Dart and Andrea in attendance. Another son, Xandro, is in Australia. A widower, Tiglao lost his wife Racquel Edralin to cancer 14 months ago.

"I was married for 30 years and it's hard to be alone," Tiglao told the

TIGLAO/A21

Joma: Attack US troops

CPP leader orders NPA to 'inflict casualties'

THE EXILED founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) has ordered its armed wing, the New People's Army, to "inflict severe casualties" on US troops participating in the RP-US Balikatan military exercises.

The order was put out in the latest issue of the CPP publication Ang Bayan and was issued by Armando Liwanag, widely considered to be a *nom de guerre* for the Netherlands-based Jose Maria Sison.

The publication, copies of which were obtained in Baguio City, told NPA guerrillas that "we must be ready to use the social and physical terrain of the Philippines to inflict severe casualties on the invading US forces and to take punitive action against US economic and related interests."

It said the NPA "must deliver lethal blows against the US imperialists and the puppet military and police forces, whatever extent that the US intervenes or aggresses against the people."

"The way for the NPA to strengthen itself is to wipe out the enemy forces and seize firearms and other war materiel from them," it added.

Sison said the NPA would wage "a war of national liberation" against the American soldiers and called for more people to join the guerrilla forces.

But Brig. Gen. Generoso Senga, spokesperson of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, scoffed at Sison's order to the NPA guerrillas.

"Joma Sison is against all soldiers. That is not surprising at all," Senga said.

He said Sison and the CPP had opposed

JOMA/A19

JOAN BONDOC

FRUITS OF SUMMER

The child, the smile, the mirth in the eyes, the windblown hair, the bite that refreshes, a season's delectable moment.

UN chief calls for int'l peacekeeping force

UNITED NATIONS—UN Secretary General Kofi Annan has called for the deployment of an armed international force to Palestinian areas to stop the spiraling violence that has left more than 300 people dead and an untold number, including two Filipinos, wounded in less than three weeks.

The Filipinos—Joselito Mico, 32, from Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, and Librado Flores, 33, from Angeles City—were among the 65 people injured in the suicide bombing Friday at the Mehane Yehuda market in West Jerusalem, according to a report sent to Philippine Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas by Jeffrey D. Cortazar, Philippine labor attaché to Israel.

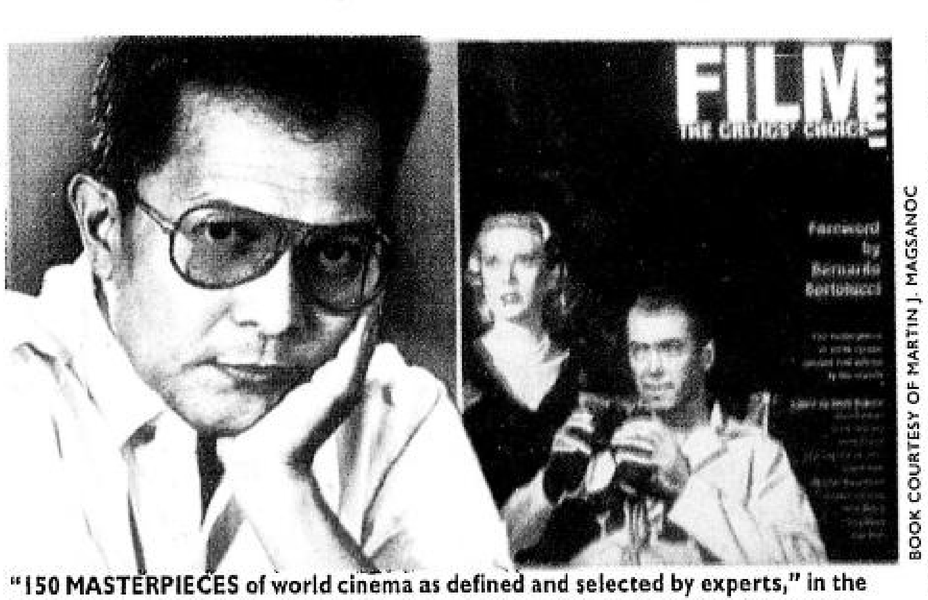
Speaking by phone yesterday from Germany where she is on official business, Sto. Tomas said Mico was "injured seriously." Flores suffered minor injuries and has been discharged from the Bikur Holim hospital in Jerusalem, she said.

Annan, who was in Geneva, told the UN Human Rights Commission on Friday that the United Nations could not stand back from what was happening in the Middle East.

"The situation is so dangerous and the humanitarian and human rights situation so appalling that I think the proposition that a force should be sent in there . . . can no longer be deferred," Annan told reporters. "It is urgent. It is imperative."

Later at a second news conference, Annan said: "I am talking about a force that will help create a secure environment, to allow for assistance, to allow us to be able to end the killing and give us time for negotiations and diplomacy."

UN/A20



BOOK COURTESY OF MARTIN J. MAGSANOC

"150 MASTERPIECES of world cinema as defined and selected by experts," in the book "Film, the Critics Choice," include only one Filipino film"Maynila, sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag,"directed by the endlessly missed Brocka (at left).

Brocka film makes list of world's best

By Nestor Torre

MOVIES from a number of Asian countries have broken into the international film market and consciousness in the past decade, but Filipino movies have been left behind in this regard.

What have they been doing that we can't seem to manage? Is it a matter of resources, connections, luck? What do we have to do to get right up there with China, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam and the other Asian stars in the global filmmaking firmament?

One answer: produce another Lino Brocka.

This thought comes to mind as we read the new book, "Film: The Critics' Choice," edited by Geoff Andrew, with a foreword by Bernardo Bertolucci.

The British publication (by Ivy Press) is causing a big, prideful stir among Filipino film buffs these days because, in its prestigious list of "150 masterpieces of world cinema selected and defined by the experts" is the Philippine production, "Maynila, Sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag," scripted by Clodualdo del Mundo Jr. and directed by Brocka.

The book's panel of experts chose the 150 masterpieces from thousands of movie productions, so "surviving" the rigorous selection process was no mean feat for Brocka and his signature film, which is consistently hailed in local cinema circles as one of the very best Filipino movies ever made.

"Maynila's" feat is even more impressive in the light of the book's other Asian choices, which come only from China, Japan, South Korea and Hong Kong. For the Philippines to be represented in that exclusive Asian selection is cause for pride, indeed.

More than that, it's a reminder that despite the currently bleak film times, our filmmakers have it in them to ascend to the top of the filmmaking world—as long as they are as gifted

BROCKA/A20

Second FRONT PAGE

E, PAANO SILA MALI-LIGTAS?

AFP denies ransom talks for Burnhams

By Connie E. Fernandez
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Top Filipino military officials denied yesterday ransom negotiations were ongoing for the release of American missionaries Martin and Gracia Burnham, with the blessings of the US government.

"Any negotiations are out of the question, as far as the Armed Forces of the Philippines is concerned," said Gen. Diomedio Villanueva, AFP chief of staff.

Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu, AFP Southern Command chief, denied knowing about any negotiations, which were reportedly being monitored by Washington.

Cimatu said, however, any negotiations would not hamper the rescue operations being conducted by the AFP for the American couple and Filipino nurse Ediborah Yap.

"As far as we are concerned, we will continue our rescue operations," Cimatu told the INQUIRER.

Villanueva and Cimatu were in this city to witness the turnover of command at the Armed Forces Central Command (Cencom) headquarters.

Maj. Gen. Jacinto Castillo Ligot took over as Cencom chief from Maj. Gen. Dionesio Santiago who was named Philippine Army head.

A group known to the Abu Sayyaf is reportedly conducting the negotiations for the release of the Burnhams. The negotiations are in the delicate stage, reports said.

A Washington Times story had said top White House, intelligence and law enforcement officials were monitoring the talks.

But US Ambassador to the Philippines Francis Ricciardone Jr. said it was still US government policy "to deny (the hostage-takers) the benefits of their actions."

Ricciardone told a news conference in this city on Friday that US officials continue to hope the Burnhams, who have been held captive for almost a year, would finally be freed.

But he stressed that the US policy remained. "We do not pay ransom," he said.

House Minority Leader Carlos Padilla said it would be an "act of discourtesy" to the Philippines if the US government was indeed involved in negotiations for the release of the Burnhams.

"If the reports are true, it is an act of rudeness and discourtesy if not downright interference (by the US) in our internal affairs," Padilla said in a phone interview.

Padilla acknowledged that reports saying the American couple would be ransomed for $300,000 had yet to be verified.

"But I'm sure nobody will confirm such reports," Padilla said.

Negros Occidental Rep. Jose Apolinario Lozada Jr., chair of the House foreign relations committee, said he would not be surprised if the reports turned out to be true.

"I will not be surprised if the highest priority of the American government is for the (safe release of the) Burnhams," Lozada said.

Padilla and Lozada had harsh words for National Security Adviser Roilo Golez, who had furiously denied that any ransom negotiations were taking place.

THE ANGUISH in Gracia Burnham's face says it all—she and husband Martin want their freedom and they want it now—in this file photo grab taken from CBS-TV.

"It is the (US) State Department that should deny or confirm (the reports). Since when did Golez become the spokesman of Washington?" Padilla said.

Lozada said Golez's statement that the Philippines and the US subscribed to the no-ransom policy conflicted with reports the US government had changed its policy on ransom in order to be able to track down the abductors of American citizens.

"I doubt the veracity of his statement," Lozada said.

He also cited the recent recovery from kidnappers of Italian priest Fr. Giuseppe Pierantoni.

"The statement of Fr. Pierantoni was very damaging, so the more authorities insist no ransom was paid, the more the people do not believe them," Lozada said.

Authorities had insisted Pierantoni was rescued by police from the Pentagon gang following a fierce firefight that saw no casualties.

But Pierantoni himself told initial television interviewers that his rescue had been a "deliberate hand-over" by his abductors to government negotiators, implying that ransom had been paid for his release. ***With Juliet L. Javellana***

What's US dumping in Basilan, Sulu waters?

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Basilan Gov. Wahab Akbar said yesterday US spy planes dropped barrels into the coastal waters off Barangay Etubetub in Sumisip town, after which children in the area started experiencing "nausea, vomiting and diarrhea."

"I think the aerial droppings should be investigated," Akbar told the INQUIRER.

Earlier, Sulu Rep. Hussin Amin had told the International Peace Mission, which was investigating alleged human rights violations in Mindanao, that American P3 Orion planes were dropping what appeared to be drums of toxic chemicals in at least three towns in his province.

He said residents of Patikul, Luuk and Indanan towns in Sulu were apprehensive about the airdrops.

But US spokesperson Maj. Cynthia Teramae denied the Americans were dumping anything and challenged Amin to produce evidence.

Teramae said P3 Orion planes cannot carry cargo, making the solon's allegations impossible.

Col. Danilo Servando also denied US forces were flying over Sulu, saying the province was not included in the Balikatan war games involving Filipino and American troops.

But Servando admitted that the Philippine Air Force was flying spying missions over the island-province.

An Air Force official even went so far as to admit that P3 Orion planes were indeed dropping "barrels" in Basilan.

But the official, who requested anonymity, said the drums did not contain toxic chemicals, but were spying equipment called "Solobuoys."

"(The deployment of) Solobuoys is standard operating procedure for American soldiers, especially in coastal areas. This equipment is capable of detecting the presence of submarines," he said. ***Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

No increase in prostitution noted in South

THE WATCHDOG of United States forces in the country has allayed fears prostitution increased in areas where bilateral military exercises are being undertaken.

"The fears are unfounded," said Ambassador Jaime Yambao, executive director of the Presidential Commission on the Visiting Forces Agreement or VFAComm.

"Foreigners seen in entertainment areas outside the military camps are not necessarily Balikatan participants. They are likely to be tourists, expatriates or members of the foreign press," Yambao said.

More than 2,000 US soldiers are scheduled to arrive this April to participate in the second phase of the Balikatan military exercises. This would be on top of the 660 American troops already in the country.

The Department of Justice, which has put up human rights desks in Zamboanga City and Basilan, has yet to receive any complaint about sexual abuses committed by the Americans.

Yambao said US forces are not allowed to spend their free time outside their camps. ***Norman Bordadora***

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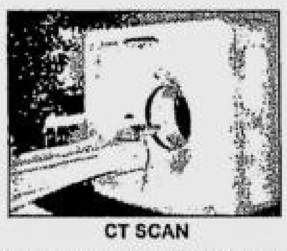
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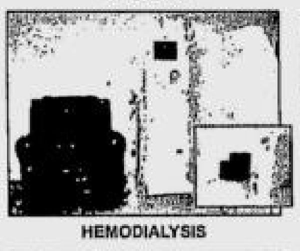
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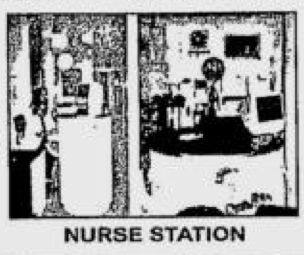
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Special body set to probe ferry mishap

By N. Bordadora

TRANSPORTATION Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez has created a special board of marine inquiry to look into the cause of the fire on the MV Maria Carmela ferry that sank off the coast of Atimonan, Quezon, on Thursday, killing at least 24 passengers.

Alvarez also ordered the Coast Guard and Marina to ground all the vessels of the Montenegro Shipping Lines, the owner and operator of the MV Maria Carmela, while its vessels are being checked to determine their seaworthiness.

Alvarez gave the seven-member board of inquiry 30 days to complete its investigation and submit a thorough report.

"We need to get to the bottom of this," said Alvarez who arrived on Friday from attending a transportation conference abroad.

Cash preferred

But for the grieving victims and their relatives, even the presence of a sympathetic President Macapagal-Arroyo on Friday was not enough to ease their pain.

They expect more, preferably in cold cash.

After getting P3,000, several pieces of Ponkan oranges and cupcakes during the presidential visit, many complained that what they received was far short of what they expected.

"The P3,000 that the President gave me is not enough to cover the burial expenses. Who will bring the casket of my daughter to our town after we land at the pier?" said Emily Barana, who lost two daughters, one of whom is still missing.

But she said she really appreciated the President's visit.

Barana lives at Barangay Pajo, Balud town, which is quite far from the Masbate port.

She said she has to continue to look for the body of her other daughter "for the peace of my conscience."

Too small

Razid Guro, whose son Ronnel perished in the tragedy, was more forthright in expressing what he wanted from the President—financial help.

"(The P3,000) is too small for what we really need. We need more than that amount. Have pity on us, President Macapagal," Guro said.

Guro's wife, Dominga, survived and is confined at a hospital here.

He said he was not around when the President distributed the money.

Nida Bongato, who suffered serious burns on her face and is confined at the Quezon Memorial Hospital, said the President only gave her several pieces of Ponkan oranges and cupcakes, the kind that can be bought at a sari-sari store.

She said the President had promised assistance in speeding up the payment of the insurance claims.

"But the insurance is not enough payment for what we've been through. We're all emotionally and physically devastated. How about my lost belongings?" Bongato asked.

Her teenage son, Julius, escaped with only a small burn on his forehead.

Bongato claimed to have lost more than P50,000 in cash and jewelry.

Insurance claims

"The President should have given us cash assistance instead of these oranges and cupcakes," she said.

Bongato said representatives from Montenegro, who visited yesterday, told them that the insurance claims were still being processed.

Jane de la Cruz, a Montenegro Shipping representative, denied that the company was neglecting its obligations.

"We pay them a visit daily to ask what they need," he said.

De la Cruz and two other Montenegro representatives were seen talking to the patients.

She said they were collecting all the receipts for the medicines purchased so they can be refunded.

Vjay Lontok, one of the company representatives, said they also help in transferring victims to other hospitals when so requested.

"But we could not give them direct cash aid, only for the purchase of medicines," she said. ***Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

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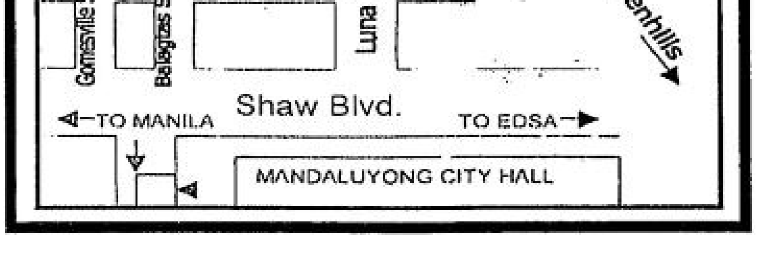

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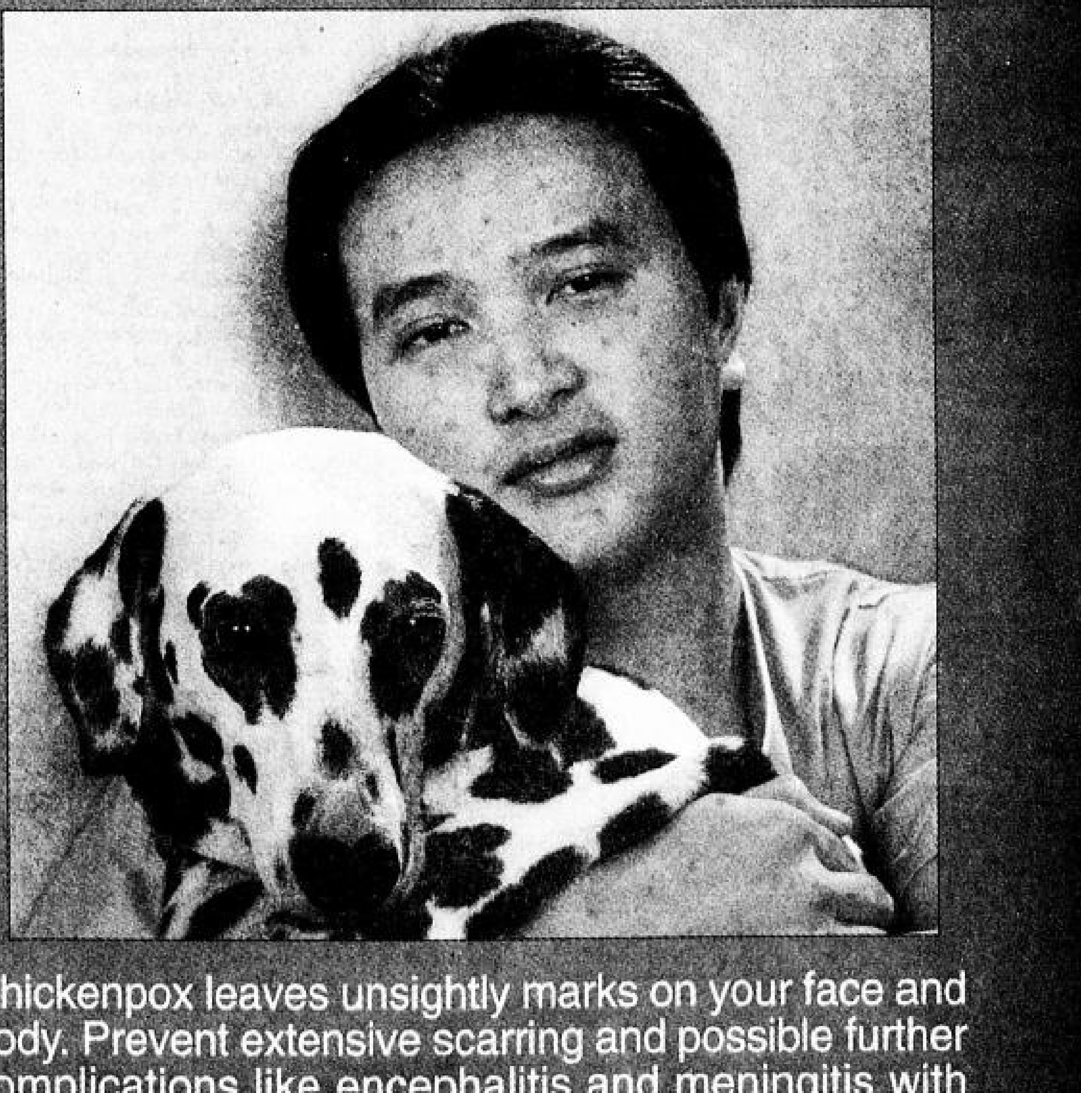

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GMA's promise of more classrooms just that

By Armand N. Nocum

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo's promise last year to build 450 classrooms in barangays where there are none is threatening to go the way of a *bangkang papel* (paper boat).

Officials involved in the project admit that even if the President's next State of the Nation Address (Sona) is due three months from now, they have yet to identify all the sites for the school buildings.

Funding has also become a problem, as well as the means to reach the school sites, most of which are in far-flung areas.

"We are working hard to have most of the school buildings completed or in various stages of construction" by the time the next Sona is delivered, Public Works Assistant Secretary Florante Soriquez said.

Soriquez, who heads the Department of Public Works and Highways' task force for the school building project, said the buildings, costing P250,000 each, could be built in 45 days.

He said 220 buildings would be constructed by the engineering brigade of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, which received P55 million in its budget for the purpose of building the schools.

The AFP was tapped to do half of the job because some of the school sites are in areas with peace and order problems.

Soriquez said AFP officials had promised to construct 100 buildings in May and 100 in June, provided that the sites were identified soon and the budget department released the funds.

"The funds cannot be released unless the sites are identified," he said, lamenting that up to now, the education and local government departments assigned to identify the sites had only succeeded in making a list of 196 barangays with no schools.

The rest of the school buildings will be constructed by the DPWH and the education department, which are still awaiting the release of P57.5 million.

"We need nothing short of a miracle to get these buildings up from the ground, but we are optimistic that we can have the President's Sona promise done in time and the kinks resolved," Soriquez said.

In Metro Manila, DPWH and local government officials seem to have better success putting up more schools.

Assistant Secretary Salvador Pleyto recently said Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte's request for the DPWH to allocate part of its district engineer's office lot in Quezon City for a five-story high school building had been approved.

"We have to part with a 1,500-square-meter lot for the benefit of high school students in Barangay Holy Spirit, Quezon City," he said.

Beauty contests without swimsuits?

MATI, Davao Oriental—Imagine a beauty contest without the usual swimsuit portion.

Noel Sibala, chair of the Sangguniang Bayan's committee on women and family affairs, recently proposed an ordinance "prohibiting beauty contests and fund-raising initiatives which tend to commodify, abuse, humiliate and treat girls and women as sex objects."

Sibala's proposal covers beauty contests in schools, communities, barangays, private groups/institutions and municipal government in its special celebrations.

Sibala said the rationale behind his proposal is the upholding of women's rights and to show that there are more to admire about women besides their bodies.

Despite opposition, Sibala vowed to push for the propos-al. *Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

EDWIN BACASMAS

CREAM OF THE CROP. President Macapagal-Arroyo congratulates bar topnotcher Rodolfo Ma. A. Ponferrada who paid a courtesy call on her at Malacañang recently with his parents, Judges Rodolfo and Thelma Ponferrada. The young Ponferrada, from the University of the Philippines, topped the last bar exams with a grade of 93.8 percent.

Yuppies do their part for underprivileged grads

By Blanche S. Rivera

A GROUP of young professionals brought together by the Edsa experience is finding time to teach less privileged people how to look for jobs, find livelihoods and seek better lives.

Employees of multinational firms, workers in non-government organizations, corporate teams, human resources personnel, computer experts, doctors, architects and teachers have teamed up for their biggest project yet: nation-building.

Called the Professionals Actively Responding Today (PART), these yuppies are out to revive the sense of volunteerism and nationalism in the hearts of the middle-class, the so-called biggest and most influential but also the most apathetic sector of society in the country.

They have no ambitious goals or missions to change the world, just the willingness to contribute what remains of their time to endeavors that would change the life of one, two, 10 people who need the education and skills that they have to offer.

"Many professionals always say they have no time. But I think what they really mean is they do not know what to do with the little remaining time that they have," said Tonet Santana, a sales underwriter for Philamlife and one of the five people that started PART.

"There's so much that professionals can do to help people without requiring great effort on their part. They just do what they do in the office, what they're good at," Santana said.

The human resources experts of PART recently completed a series of job application training for graduating college students of public schools that do not have as much competitive advantage as their counterparts from private schools in the job hunt.

The project, which started in January and ended last week, provided students with lectures on resume writing and power dressing, as well as mock interviews with supervisors and HR recruitment personnel, who counsel them on their bearing, projection and areas that need to be improved.

PART project leader Jennie Aguirre, a former HR recruitment officer of Pilipinas Shell, noted the differences between graduates of public and private schools, saying the latter could easily land jobs because they were more aggressive and confident and trained precisely to snag opportunities.

A lamentable irony, Aguirre said, because the graduates of public schools were more in need of jobs to improve their economic status but they could not grab the good ones because they are ill-equipped to advance in the job hunt.

To help this kind of students who will be among the projected 383,890 college graduates this year in seeking employment was the aim of PART's job application training. The group did not want them to end up in the ranks of the 4.2 million unemployed Filipinos; it wants the graduates in the line of professionals like them.

The PART volunteers taught around 1,200 senior students from the Rizal Technological University, Technological University of the Philippines and the Dr. Felimon Aguilar Memorial College the strategies of application: what to wear, what not to say, how to sell themselves, how to communicate non-verbally, what to include in the resume, how to maximize strengths and experiences.

PART has talked with some companies who agreed to check out the resumes that PART reviewed in their training to see if there are students who could be absorbed by the firms. Some of the supervisors who conducted the mock interviews have also signified their interest to hire.

Brought together by their shared sentiments during the Edsa 2 uprising and May 1 siege of Malacañang last year, these yuppies decided to sustain the euphoric nationalism by coming up with projects that would respond to the call of the times, as they did in the job application training.

Santana said the May 1 riot was the last straw that led him and his wife Laine, vice president for public affairs of a bank and a co-founder of PART, to question why many Filipinos continued to risk their lives for politicians that do not really care about them.

"It was then that we realized that it's because we who think we know more do not do anything, that's why they do not listen to us. The middle class is always so preachy," he said. "We did not want to end with the shouting ad rallies during Edsa 2. We wanted to do something for people."

Five initially composed the PART, which now has 214 members in its database. It will be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission by next month. Unlike other groups, PART does not hold regular meetings for its members because of the 8-5 work schedule but contact them only when their expertise is needed for a particular project.

Paola Deles, a PART member who works for the Foundation for Rural Institutions and Development based in Davao, cites the Kapitbahayan livelihood project that PART initiated for the hog-raisers in Marikina who lost their income since hog-raising was banned in the city.

She said the group simply contacted their entrepreneurs, one of whom offered to sell the extra chocolates manufactured by her company for a very low price, another taught the 10 housewives to cook and mold the chocolates for sale, while another came up with a logo for the products. The chocolates are now sold in stores on Katipunan Avenue.

Other projects, like the renovation of a public daycare center, health checks and tutorials for street children and assistance to the Mangyan Heritage Center are in the offing but need more volunteers.

Those who are interested to help may contact Tonet Santana at 0917-5354959, Paola Deles at 0917-8155215 or Edsel Ramirez at 0917-5255487.

"Our only goal is to inspire and empower people to do something. You are enriched when you help others," Aguirre said.

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Perez: DOJ may probe slain activist's killing

DAVAO CITY—The justice department could conduct an investigation into the death of human rights activist Benjaline Hernandez but it can do so only with a formal complaint from her family or the group she represented, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said yesterday.

Perez said a direct investigation by the department would avoid bias, prejudice and would disabuse the minds of the alleged killers that they would get away with the deed.

"We don't want to hesitate to prosecute anyone. The DOJ can do an investigation if there is a criminal complaint," Perez said.

The family of Hernandez, who was killed in Arakan, Cotabato, on April 5 while documenting alleged military abuses, said it would file a complaint against the Army's 12th Special Forces and militiamen allegedly responsible for her death.

The family and the human rights group Karapatan, of which the 22-year-old Hernandez was deputy secretary general, believe that Hernandez and the three other people who were killed with her had been murdered.

Hernandez, a literature student at the Ateneo de Davao, had gone to the Arakan Valley to do research on the impact of the peace process on the community there and to follow up on a fact-finding mission on the Tababa massacre which she had led the year before.

The military has declined to comment on the impending justice department investigation.

"We cannot give any statement for now. We are under very strict orders," said 1st Lt. Peter Paul Iringan, commanding officer of the 12th Special Forces Company.

But earlier, the military claimed that Hernandez was killed during a legitimate encounter between government troops and the communist New People's Army in Barangay Kinawayan.

Maj. Julieto Ando, spokesperson of the Army's 6th Infantry Division based in Maguindanao, said on Friday that Hernandez's diary, which was said to have been recovered from the site of the encounter, would prove that she was an NPA rebel.*Ayan C. Mellejor, Anthony S. Allada and Joselle d.R. Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

SC bars Goma, 4 others

THE SUPREME Court has stopped the proclamation of five party-list groups, including popular movie actor Richard Gomez's Mamamayan Ayaw sa Droga (MAD), despite having obtained the required number of votes in the party-list elections last year.

The high court barred with finality the proclamation of the party-list candidates of MAD, Veterans Federation Party (VFP), Abag Promdi (Promdi), Lakas NUCD-UMDP and the Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC) for failing to meet the criteria set out in a list of guidelines that it gave the Commission on Elections.

In ruling against the five party-list groups, the SC upheld a resolution issued on July 27, 2001 by the Comelec. *Michael Ubac*

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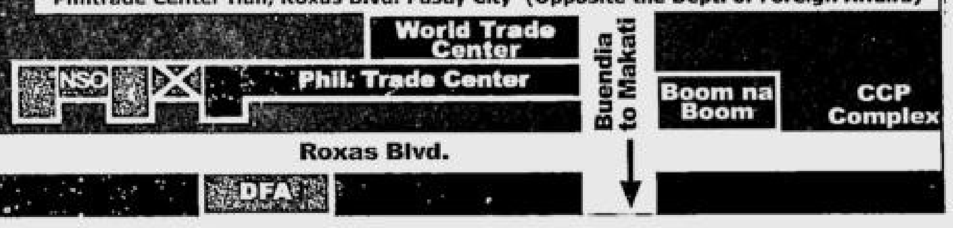

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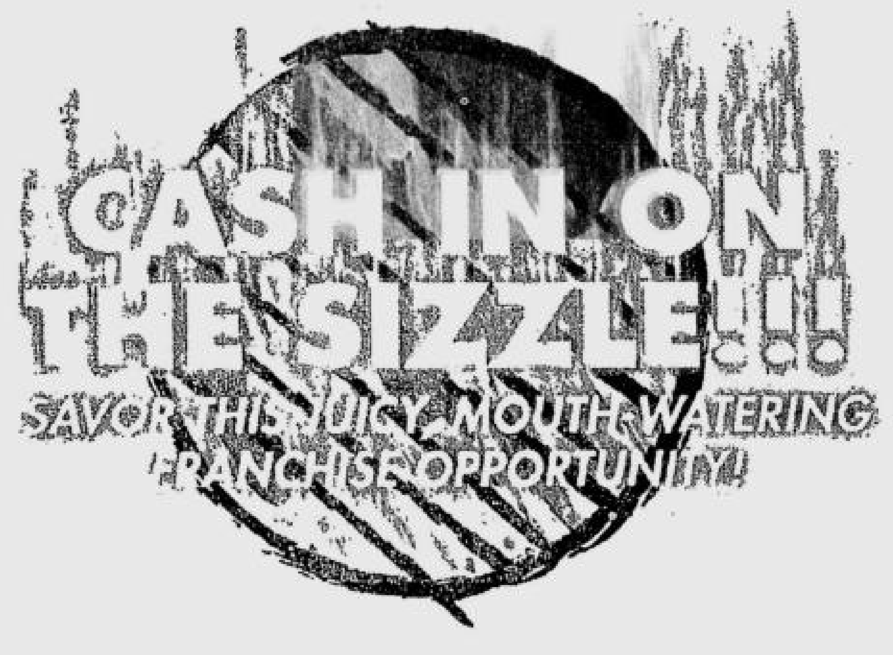
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DOT: Long weekends working for Mindanao

MINDANAO is significantly benefiting from increased domestic travel as a result of lengthened weekends, the Department of Tourism said yesterday.

The DOT released statistics to show that lengthened weekends, the most recent of which was the five-day Lenten holiday, resulted in increased intra-regional travel, and subsequently in increased economic activity in the countryside.

Contractual employment by hotels, accommodation and transportation facilities also increased to respond to the demand for more services, it said.

Figures released by the DOT Office of Tourism Services and Regional Offices showed the top five regions that posted the highest hotel occupancy rates for the Lenten period were Region XI (Davao provinces), with 85 percent occupancy; Region I (Ilocos provinces, La Union and Pangasinan) with 75 percent; Region V (Bicol) with 74 percent; Region X (Camiguin and Misamis Oriental); CAR (Abra, Baguio, Kalinga-Apayao, Mt. Province) with 65 percent, and Region IV (Southern Tagalog), with 63 percent.

In terms of increased tourism, Region XII (Cotabato provinces and Lanao del Norte) posted the biggest jump, with a 65 percent increase in occupancy rates as it logged a 46 percent occupancy rate in March 2002 compared with 28 percent in March last year.

The report to Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon by the DOT-TSRO, headed by Undersecretary Oscar Palabyab, showed two important points.

One is there was increased travel to and within Mindanao. Second, non-traditional tourism destinations, particularly in Region X which hosts Camiguin and Cagayan de Oro, is starting to reap the benefits of increased domestic travel.

Tourism is helping Camiguin recover from severe economic losses and deprivations that resulted in recent heavy flooding in the province. Camiguin, a resort destination with unique eco-tourism assets including springs, waterfalls and marine sanctuaries, reported 100 percent bookings during the Lenten holidays with its Panaad Festival.

Palabyab said that these figures show that the DOT program utilizing extended weekends by moving national holidays to either Fridays or Mondays is not based on speculation but on data.

The report stated the Bicol region experienced a big boost in tourism with a 64 percent hike in occupancy rates over the past year.

While Region VII (Cebu, Bohol and Negros Oriental) did not make it to the top five with the highest occupancy rates, it still posted a 4-percent growth rate. This was still significant because Region VII accounts for one-fourth of all available rooms nationwide as its percentage share of the national computation is 24.5 percent.

The national average rate for hotel occupancy during the 5-day period was 61.48 percent. The national average represents an increase of 27.5 percent over last year's average occupancy rate of 48.23 percent for the entire month of March.

The Philippine Tour Operators Association (PHILTOA) said the 21 tour operators participating in the WOW Philippines tourism package reported brisk business during Lent.

In the weeks before the Lenten holidays, they received close to 3,000 inquiries from prospective travelers under the WOW packages.

CONGRATULATIONS LUCKY PYRAMID MILLIONAIRES OF THE WEEK!!!

MINI Dyaryo
BALITANG JACKPOT
Balitang Positibo Upang Tayo'Y Umasenso

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MABISANG PAMPA-SUWERTE
SAGOT SA KAHIRAPAN, NARITO NA!
GAMOT SA SAKIT SA BULSA
AS SEEN ON T.V. ON CHANNEL 2 PIPOL
& RATSADA BALITA CHANNEL 9

LUCKY PYRAMID
GAMOT SA SAKIT SA BULSA
Para hindi nauubusan ng pera
Mabibili rin: WISHING PLANT
(PAMPAUNLAD NG BUHAY)
GOODLUCK sa Negosyo, trabaho, Pag-ibig,
Swerte sa LOTTO, JAI-ALAI, BINGO atbp.

SAGOT SA KAHIRAPAN, NARITO NA!
Gumamit ng Pampa-YAMAN "Gamot sa sakit sa Bulsa." Hindi kayo mauubusan ng PERA. Talagang Totoo Lalong Gumagastos, lalong dumarating ang PERA. Walang Mawawala kung susubukan. YAYAMAN KA LANG
*Pampa-TRABAHO *Pampa-ABROAD
*Pampa-LAKAS ng NEGOSYO
*Panlaban sa SUGAL para laging PANALO SA LOTTO, JAI ALAI, BINGO, ENDING, SWEEPTAKES, atbp.

FREE LOTTO, JAI ALAI, TIPS

WALA KA BANG TRABAHO?
WALA RING PERA?
Gusto mong magkatrabaho at magkapera?
Makakatulong ako sa iyo.

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CONGRATULATIONS!
Mr. & Mrs. from Tuguegarao. Nanalo ng Jackpot sa Lotto. Nanalo ng Jackpot sa Lotto. Nakabili ng Lucky Pyramid at Wishing Plant Kay Engr. Margie Centeno

BABALA SA AMING MGA MAHAL NA COSTUMER
Dito lamang po makakabili sa 2665 National Hi-way, Anos, Los Baños, Laguna ng TUNAY, ORIGINAL NA LUCKY PYRAMID. Hanapin po si Engr. Centeno. Wala po kaming ibang outlet o tindahan. Mag-ingat po sa mga fake na LUCKY PYRAMID? na inaalok sa Quiapo. Gayun din ang Wishing Plant at Pampayaman na PAPEL

ALAM BA NINYO...?
Alam ba ninyo na mahigit sa 75 na ang mga nanalo ng JACKPOT na NAKABILI KAY Engr. M.D. Centeno ng LUCKY PYRAMID at WISHING PLANT, ngunit ni isa ay walang bumalik para magpasalamat at magbalato. Gumaling ang kanilang Sak-it sa Bulsa, sa iba namin nalaman na NANALO pala sila.
Mabuti yung 10 ketongin na pinagaling ni Hesu Kristo, may isang bumalik upang magpasalamat.
Mabuti pa yung mga NANALO ng kakaunting halaga lamang bumabalik sila upang magpasalamat at magpatotoo. Sa kanilang mga balato ay maraming natulungan upang maipaabot ang GAMOT sa SAKIT sa BULSA sa mahihirap.
Bakit pag masamang balita madaling kumalat, pag magandang balita ayaw ikalat, ayaw-i-front page...

PRAYER TO HOLY SPIRIT
Holy Spirit, thou who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my Ideal, You who give the divine gift to forgive & forget the wrong that is done to me & who, In all instances of my life, is with me. I, in this dialogue, want to thank you for everything & confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with You & may love ones in your perpetual Glory. Amen

Engr. MARGIE D. CENTENO
Young inventor of the Year 1990 & one of the 10 Most Outstanding Inventor 1993
New Tel. #(049) 537-8105

Si Engr. Centeno at ang kanyang BRAND NEW BMW. Natupad na ang kanyang pangarap na kotse dahil sa kanyang LUCKY PYRAMID.

NANALO ng JACKPOT sa LOTTO P12 Million Oct 31, 2001 nakabili ng WHITE PYRAMID sa JC Herbal
Yung Kapit-bahay namin nanalo ng jackpot P12M two weeks ago. Sa Sta. Rosa, Laguna, Mr. Medina ng Cludad Grande (NAGPAGAWA NG BAHAY)
B. S. ng Sta. Rosa, Laguna

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Magbalik ka sa Lupang Tinubuan
(Composed by Engr. Margie D. Centeno & Mr. Juliano G. Centeno)
1999 Official Entry sa Metro Pop

INTRO: D-Fdim - Em - A7
D Fdim Em A7
Sa dukhang bayan, ikaw ay isinilang
D F#m Am D
Nagtamo ng liwanag, karununga't
G
karangalan
Em A D
Tinanghal ka't ipinagmalaki
G A D-D7
Dahil sa nakamtang tagumpay.

REFRAIN I:
G A D
Subalit isang araw nagpasiya
Bm
kang lumisan
G A D
Nasilaw ka sa kinang ng ginto at
Bm G A-A7
ganda ng ibang bayan

D Fdim Em A7
Ang dunong mong natuklasan sa ating bayan
D F#m Am D D
Iba ang iyong pinaghanduga't tinulungan
Em A D
Kung kaya bayan mo'y naghihirap
G A D-D7
Ginhawa'y hindi maramdaman.

REFRAIN II:
G A D Bm
Maalala mo sana Inang Lupang tinubuan
G A D-D7
Magbalik ka sa kanyang kandungan.
G A D Bm
Upang mahango sa kahirapan
G A G D
Nang malasap n'ya ang kaunlaran.
G A A D
Nang malasap n'ya ang kaunlaran.
Fdim - Em - A7sus - A7 - D

"Police Investigator from Sultan Kudarat Bumili ng GOLD PYRAMID at WISHING PLANT nanalo ng Jackpot sa LOTTO

PAG MABILIS KANG BUMILI
MABILIS KANG MANALO

CONGRATULATIONS!
(4X) BINGO winner in one day Mag-asawa ng Bayog, Los Baños. Umabot sa P54,500.00 ang panalo

TX 4-2- DAY
From: 09195280932
Date: April 2, 2002
Time: 9:07:49 pm.
Ginupit ko lang ung ads sa Abante ng Lucky Pyramid, nanalo ako ng P6,100 sa Jueteng Totoo ito.'
Lito from Clark Air Base Pampanga

Congratulations!
Ako po si Myrna S., taga Ampayon, Butuan City, nanalo po ako ng mahigit P24 MILLION sa Meagalotto, apat na araw makaraang bumili ako ng Wishing Plantkay Engr. Margie D. Centenong JC Herbal. Graaabeeee!!! Effective talaga!

Congratulations!
Bumili ng Lucky Pyramid kay Engr. Margie ng JC Herbal ang aking manugang at binigay sa aking anak na asawa niya, ngayon mayroon na silang Honda Civic (Brand New). Julie Galang ng Cubao, Quezon City.

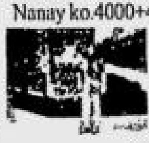
Congratulations!
Nakabili ako ng Red Pyramid noong Jan., 1996 sa JC Herbal, 1997 nanalo ang husband ko sa Loteng ng 100,000 at may nagregalo sa amin ng kotse.
Analyn ng Calamba

Ginupit ko lang sa Abante nanalo ako sa 4 digit No. 7820 ng 64 Thousand.
Leonardo Forte, Batasan Hills, Ibaba, Quezon City.

82 yrs. old na Lola nanalo sa 4 digits sa Lotto. Bumili ako ng Lucky Pyramid, nanalo ako ng 27,086- sa 4-digits sa Lotto 7-4-1-7. Lumabas ang tip ng JC Herbal. Nagbalato ng P200.
Felicidad de Asis, Sta. ana Pateros.

IBINALOT ko lang ang ticket ko sa Lotto sa dilaw na PAMPAYAMAN NA PAPEL (Balitang Swerte) Nanalo ako ng P21,571.00 sa 4 digit sa Lotto (1-4-6-8)
-Engr. Centeno,
Anos Los Baños, Laguna

March 25, 2002
Ginupit ko lang po ang Ads sa Tiktik, nanalo ako sa Jueteng, Tapos nanalo din sa Jueteng ang Tatay & Nanay ko.4000+4000+2000 =10,000



PERLITA HIGUIT
Toclong
Imus, Cavite
Tel. 046-4340870
--ooOoo--
March 26, 2002
Ako po si Gloria Francisco. ginupit ko lang sa dyaryo nanalo ako ng tatlong beses sa jueteng una P800 pangalawa P700 pangatlo P600. Salamat kay Engr. Centeno at sa Panginoong Diyos. BALATO:P100.
Laoag City
--ooOoo--
March 26, 2002
Ako po si Romeo A. ng Laoag City. Bumili po ako ng Golden Lucky Pyramid noong March 8, nanalo po ako sa Sabong noong march 24 ng P5,500. BALATO: P200.00
ROMEO HERNANDEZ AGULO
Brgy. 38 B. Mangato Laoag City
0919-74811517

March 13, 2002
Ginupit ko lang ang Ads ng Jc Herbal sa Bulgar pinadalhan ako ng hipag ko ng P10,000.00
Marlyn-Tanauan City

March 30, 2002
Ginupit ko lang sa Bulgar ang Ads, nanalo ako sa Jueteng P2,000 Edna Mallari

March 13, 2002
Di ako naniniwala sa pampayaman na papel nabasa ko sa PSN (March 7), tumaya ako sa Lotto ng hapon. Tumama ng gabi, 5 Digit (sa 6/42) P20.000
Edwin Alvarez
San Pablo City (0917-9472963

CONGRATULATIONS!
Mr. M. ng Ciudad Grande, Sta Rosa Laguna. Bumili kay engr. Centeno ngLucky Pyramid sa JC Herbal. Nanalo ng Jackpot sa Lotto 12M pesos,

March 23, 2002
Ginupit ko ang logo ng LUCKY PYRAMID sa Bulgar. after 4 days tumama ako sa Bingo ng P12,000.00 BALATO: P200.00
DINA B. REYES
2412 Vitas, Tondo Mla.

Bumili ako ng Pyramid, nanalo ako sa Bingo ng P500 sa project 4 Q.C.
F.A.U., Cubao, Q.C.

March 19, 2002
Ginupit ko lang ang Lucky Pyramid sa Bulgar inipit ko sa wallet nanalo ako ng SARI-SARI STORE sa promo ng Ariel c/0 Ms. Loren Legarda. FE C. MARTINEZ
Blk. 11 Lt.37 Alfonso Vill. Alapan I-B Imus Cavite - 0917-9293943

Kitang kita ko yung katabi ko sa Bingohan, mayroong Green Pyramid nanalo ng BMW (Grand Prize) sa Bingo Bonanza.
Ma. Theresa ng Calamba

March 12, 2002
Hindi naniniwala ang asawa ko sa mga paswerteng gimik, pero minsan, ginupit lang nya ang Ad sa Dyaryo tumama na siya ng P20,000 sa lotto nang December 2001! Dating UP student
Tel: 02-935-5557•09178445035
26A Butler St.,North Fairview, Q.C

Maraming salamat Kay Engr. Centeno. Bumili kami ng Pyramid worth P500.00. Nanalo kami ng 6/42 LOTTO P20,000 (BALATO P500)
HENRY OBITAL
Mataas na kahoy, Batangas

JC HERBAL
MGA PATOTOO NG NAKASUBOK
TALAGANG MABISA ANG PYRAMID
- March 17, 2000
"Nanalo ako ng P23,000 sa MEGA LOTTO noong June 3, 1999." Nanalo si SPO3 Ricky Fanco ng Poblacion Norala, South Cotobato matapos makabili ng GOLD PYRAMID.
- March 22, 2000
"Nanalo ako ng P100,000 jackpot sa BINGO MANIA last July 4, 1998 sa EDSA Manuela kinabukasan lang pagkabili ko ng GOLD PYRAMID.
-- Fatima Santillan ng Mandaluyong City
- February 6, 2000
"I am very grateful that I bought the white pyramid which gave me luck last night Feb. 5, 2000. I won P10,000 from BINGO at Farmers Plaza.
-- Rosa Perez (Balato 200)

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CONGRATULATIONS!
4 na Domestic Helpers nanalo ng Jackpot sa Lotto / Mark 6 sa Hongkong. Nakabili kay Engr. MARGIE ng Lucky Pyramid w/face of Jesus Christ. Nagbalita L.A. ng Sta. Rita, San Antonio Los Baños Laguna
Thank you very much sa balato na P1,000-, nanalo ng karera sa Hongkong- Marilyn S. dela Cruz.
Engr. Magie Centeno

Engr. MARGIE D. CENTENO
Young inventor of the Year 1990 one of the 10 Most Outstanding Inventors 1993

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Deployment of OFWs to Dubai hit

MIGRANTE International has assailed the administration for continuing to send Filipino workers to Dubai to work in its drydocks before the families of the 16 Filipinos who lost their lives there recently had received compensation for their loss.

The 16 Filipinos were killed when a drydock they were working in suddenly flooded. The government had reportedly promised to give their families P120,000 each for their loss.

At least eight Filipinos were scheduled to leave for Dubai last week to work in the Dubai Drydocks, Migrante reported yesterday.

The bodies of the 16 victims have all arrived in the country. One of them, Jose Recto Santos, was buried by his family in Cavite yesterday.

"Mr. Santos, like many other OFWs, was the breadwinner of his family. Amid much sorrow, his family must now learn to survive without him," said Migrante secretary general Poe Gratela.

Santos' family has yet to receive the P120,000 compensation that the government promised them in full, Gratela said.

The relatives of other victims, on the other hand, reported being told by the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration that they may be entitled to only P10,000 each as compensation.

"Meanwhile, the Macapagal administration continues to deploy OFWs to replace Mr. Santos and the 15 others who died in the Dubai drydocks," Gratela said. ***Agnes E. Donato***

OFWs sent more money home in 2001

OVERSEAS Filipino workers remitted $6.23 billion to the Philippines last year, a 3.05-percent increase from 2000, the government said Saturday.

Some $3.3 billion was sent home by Filipinos working in North America in 2001, the Presidential Palace said in a statement. This was a 17.5-percent reduction from the previous year, however.

Remittances from Europe also fell by 24.22 percent to $405.1 million, the statement said.

The fall from these regions, however, was made up by increases from other places like Asia, where remittances went up 6.18 percent to $1 billion.

Remittances from seamen also rose by 17.98 percent to $1.09 billion.

These figures reflect money remitted through official channels and do not cover the huge amounts that are sent home through informal couriers. ***AFP***

Estrada supporters planning big 'street party' on his birthday

WHILE deposed President Joseph Estrada may not be allowed to hold a birthday bash at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center in Quezon City on Friday, his supporters are planning to stage a massive "street party" for him.

The pro-Estrada People's Movement Against Poverty (PMAP) yesterday said it would mobilize at least 3,000 members for a protest rally in front of the VMMC on Estrada's 65th birthday on April 19.

The rally, which is expected to last from noon to early evening, will consist of political speeches by pro-Estrada leaders, song-and-dance numbers by showbiz personalities and a short play on the country's justice system.

"We will be there to greet Estrada on his birthday as well as call for justice not only for him but also for the poor," PMAP spokesperson Arnold Obina said in a phone interview.

Obina, who will meet with Director Edgar Aglipay of the National Capital Region Police Office on Tuesday to discuss the details of the rally, gave assurances that the program would be "peaceful and orderly."

Police will deploy an undetermined number of anti-riot personnel to quell possible violent activities that day.

Estrada and his son, former San Juan Mayor Jinggoy Estrada, are detained in the presidential suite at the VMMC while undergoing trial for plunder before the anti-graft court Sandiganbayan.

The Estradas have been prohibited from holding parties inside the hospital since December last year when the former president issued scathing remarks against the Macapagal administration on national TV during a lavish party that he hosted.

Obina said the rally would kick off a series of PMAP protest actions in Metro Manila that would culminate in the commemoration of the May 1 siege of Malacañang.

"From that day, we'll be holding pocket rallies to protest plans by oil companies to increase prices of petroleum products, among other issues," he said.

Aside from rallies, PMAP will host free medical checkups and cultural shows in select urban poor communities in the metropolis in the runup to the commemoration of the Labor Day attack.

On May 1, at least 5,000 PMAP members, together with members of the Edsa Tres Coalition and the Union of the Masses for Democracy, will march to Malacañang to commemorate the attack. *TJ Burgonio*

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Vol. 16 No. 125
ISSN 0116-2642

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph **website:** http://www.inq7.net

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
▪ Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
▪ P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
▪ Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
▪ Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 ▪ Advertising 897-4807
▪ Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
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Survey says

EDITORIAL

IN THE HARSH light of the latest Social Weather Stations and Pulse Asia surveys, the cockiness of deposed President Joseph Estrada is (there is no other word for it) cinematic in its blithe contempt for plain reality.

After the SWS March 2002 poll showed that his trust rating had fallen to its lowest level since his ouster in January 2001, the former movie hero told reporters covering his trial at the Sandiganbayan: "I'm still thankful because I got 31 percent trusting me even if I'm already in jail. What more if I can still go out, if I can sing or plant rice?"

His swipe at President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's transparent image-building offensive makes for a good soundbite, but it is based on a breezy disregard for the facts. Between Jan. 20 and April 25, 2001, Estrada had in fact been "out"—campaigning, visiting squatters' communities, granting media interviews, doing everything short of planting rice. Were his trust ratings markedly better then? The answer is no. There is only a statistical improvement, that is to say, a rise (34 in March 2001, 33 in April 2001) within the survey's margin of error. In other words, statistically speaking, Estrada's gross trust rating last month was the same as his rating a year ago, before his arrest.

So perhaps Estrada can use his time in detention—the air-conditioned presidential suite at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center is a jail only in the looser sense—more profitably if he seeks other reasons for his dismal trust ratings.

He may use the following as a jump-off point for his reflections: The SWS and Pulse Asia surveys are as different as the proverbial apple and orange, but on one key point they are remarkably alike. The SWS poll was a nationwide survey conducted over a period of three weeks, with a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percent. The Pulse Asia survey was conducted only in Metro Manila, over a five-day period, with an error margin of plus or minus 6 percent. The two polling firms asked their respondents different questions (in rating government performance, for example, the SWS asked respondents whether they were "satisfied" while Pulse Asia asked whether they "approved"). But on the question of Estrada's trust factor, both surveys reached the same conclusion.

Nationwide, Estrada had a minus 15 net trust rating ("much trust" minus "little trust"). This finding is mirrored in Pulse Asia's NCR survey, where Estrada also received a minus 15 net trust rating ("big trust" minus "small/no trust").

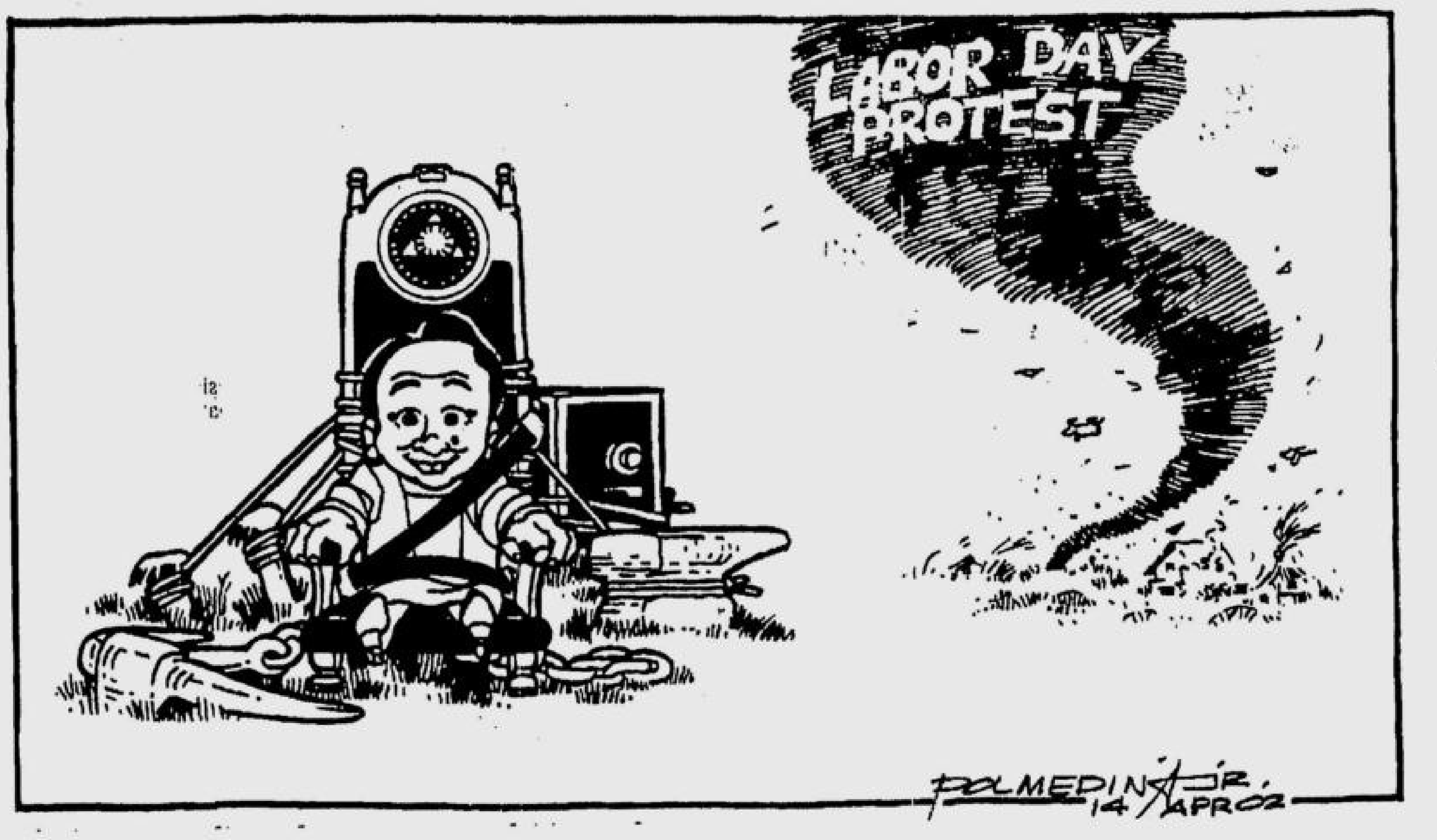
The question is, what is the SWS figure for Metro Manila, traditionally the bellwether of the opposition's fortunes? Is it markedly different from that of Pulse Asia? Well, even here there is a remarkable congruence: Estrada's SWS net trust rating in the national capital region is minus 12. Given the survey's margin of error, this is statistically the same as the Pulse Asia result.

What can we learn from all this?

For a plurality president whose camp has made threatening noises about launching yet another people power uprising, it means the end of one particular road. Playing on Estrada's real name, Ejercito, and on his reputation as a champion of the masses, the business community last March declared the former president a "spent force." The immediate context of this declaration was the failure of the Estrada camp to take to the streets in substantial numbers after the ex-president fired his lawyers and denounced the criminal proceedings against him. The larger context is the growing obviousness of the limits of the Estrada phenomenon.

Years of surveys tell us that the former matinee idol has always enjoyed the support of about a third of the country's electorate. Except for one instance, his solid bloc of core supporters has proven loyal to him through thick and thin; that one exception was the immediate aftermath of his ouster, when the number of those who said they trusted him fell below 30 percent. But while this solid base allowed him to reach the presidency, it has become clear that this base of support is not enough to bring him back.

The sooner he and his supporters face plain reality, the sooner they can come to terms with his trial. They may not like it, but their only hope of redemption now lies in the very courts they have vilified.



The right to know and the Lacson case

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

ONE of the basic individual rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights of the 1973 Constitution was the right to know. This has been reaffirmed in the present Constitution, which provides in Art. III, Sec. 7 as follows:

"The right of the people to information on matters of public concern shall be recognized. Access to official records and to documents and papers pertaining to official acts, transactions and decision, as well as to government research data used as basis for policy development, shall be accorded the citizen, subject to such limitations as may be provided by law."

Such assurance is important in the republican society where the citizen is an "individual particle of sovereignty." As such, he has a right and duty to participate in the shaping of government affairs and policies. This is true not only if he is a public official but also if he is acting merely in a private capacity as a member of the body politic.

The right to know is important not only to inform the public of what is going on in the councils of government but also to enable him to comment on it. Every matter of public concern is a legitimate subject of public curiosity and discussion. This is why the right to information is now regarded as a cognate right embraced in the wider guaranty of freedom of expression.

A person suspicious of a government transaction can ordinarily comment on it on the strength only of half-truths, rumors and even canards. But if he had access to the pertinent records in the government office involved, he would be able to discuss his suspicions—and possibly even confirm and prove them—with the information he will have gathered in the exercise of his right to know.

At the very least, he would be able to speak authoritatively on his suspicions and persuade his audience to join him in demanding an official inquiry. He would not even run the risk of libel. This would not be possible if the public officials involved in the anomaly could prevent the discovery of the damning information that could expose and punish their wrongdoing.

In one case, the Supreme Court sustained the right of a private citizen to examine the records of the GSIS to determine the truth of the reports that some members of the defunct Batasang Pambansa had secured "clean" loans from the publicly funded agency. In another, it approved the opening of the files of the Civil Service Commission to check the eligibility of certain persons appointed to government positions.

More recently, in Chavez v. PCGG, 299 SCRA 744, the Court ordered the disclosure of information regarding the negotiations between the government and the Marcoses on the disposition of the latter's alleged ill-gotten wealth. It cautioned, however, that the right to know did not cover certain well-recognized exceptions, among them national security and intelligence information, trade secrets and banking information, information on criminal cases, and other confidential information.

Which brings me now to a matter that I have been nagging the Senate about these many weeks and months. The subject on which I invoke my long deferred right to know is the results of the investigation of Sen. Panfilo Lacson by his colleagues for money-laundering and drug trafficking.

This is a matter of public interest about which the people have been kept in the dark so far. And so long.

The last hearing on this case was held on Sept. 5, 2001, after a series of interrogations avidly followed on television by the nation because of the seriousness of the charges, let alone the many witnesses who testified and, especially, the high position of the principal respondent. The investigation was apparently concluded on that date as no further hearings have been held since then.

Reacting to my column of Dec. 16, 2001, where I wondered what had happened to the case, Sen. Joker P. Arroyo, chair of one of the three committees that jointly conducted the probe, informed me that they had dropped the money-laundering charge for the time being but were proceeding with the other count of drug trafficking. He assured me that the committee report would be released by mid-January this year, and I so informed my readers.

We have been waiting for that report but it seems we can't hold our breath much longer. It is now the middle of April, and we have yet to know about the fate of Senator Lacson. There has been total silence from the Senate about his case, which has caused many people to suspect that it will simply die a natural death through mere inaction. The charge will be buried alive, it is feared, in deference to traditional camaraderie.

Some speculate that the decision would have been rendered long ago if it was in favor of Lacson, but others say the Senate might hesitate to announce his exoneration for fear of a public outcry. If these surmises prove anything, it is that the nation is still interested in the case and is not just about to forget it. There will be no end to such conjectures unless the long-awaited decision is released forthwith for the information of the people.

Eight months have elapsed since Sept. 5, 2001. The three committees have presumably already deliberated on the Lacson case in light of the report of the independent private law firm they had earlier commissioned to evaluate the evidence of the parties. Much official time and funds have been spent, but the question still hangs smoldering fire: **What is the decision of the Senate?** The public has a right to know. The right of the people to information on this urgent matter of public concern should be recognized.

A burning issue

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about a parrot that was caught peeping in the convent by the mother superior. To teach him a lesson, the feathers on the crown of his head were removed. Just then, a bald-headed priest passed by, and the parrot exclaimed: "Were you caught, too, Father?"

* * *

A lot of stories and jokes have been made in connection with priests and nuns and their celibate, or supposed to be celibate lives. The easiest and the most saleable joke, and the most popular and hottest gossip for that matter, is anything that has to do with, Father X and Sister X.

Joking or gossiping about something or someone is one way of dealing with a person, a problem or an issue. You can't do something about it, so just joke or gossip about it, right? Wrong.

And for the Church, the best way to deal with this is just to "sweep it under the rug" and be quiet about it, pretend or altogether deny that there is a problem, right? Wrong again. The "recent events" of sexual scandals in America involving priests make us realize that it is not a joke anymore. We cannot go on just joking about it, gossiping about it, or keeping mum about it.

* * *

The Gospel today (Lk.24,13-35) talks about two disciples on their way to Emmaus, conversing and debating along the way about the "recent events," when the Risen Lord approached them. They were so engrossed in their conversation that they did not recognize Him.

This is a scenario that can happen when we leave out the Lord in this whole issue of priestly celibacy. As the debate gets more heated and more intense, let us not forget that, more than a legal or an institutional issue, it is first and foremost a personal issue involving a personal response and a personal decision to remain unmarried so as to serve the Lord and His flock in the fullest way possible, and to be a witness to God's Kingdom and presence in this world. The three essential elements of the celibacy issue then are personal decision, service and being a witness. The legal and the institutional aspects are secondary. Foremost, of course, is the grace aspect of it, i.e., it is God who makes it all possible. Let us not leave out the Lord in this issue!

* * *

While the debate rages on, let our prayer be "Stay with us Lord," as the disciples on their way to Emmaus pleaded. I don't know when the issue of celibacy will be resolved (maybe not in my lifetime), but as the debate rages on, we all must pray a lot for guidance. It has to be approached with humility and openness.

"Can the Catholic Church save itself?" Time magazine asks in its April 1, 2002 issue. Yes it can. It has saved itself by God's grace in the past amid bigger crises because it was open and humble enough, albeit, often slowly and reluctantly. In this age of technology and information, perhaps the Church should work more, and at a faster pace on the Four H's: honesty, humility, hard work, holiness of life. Otherwise we may find ourselves out of tune with the signs of the times. We'll be there, we'll be present, all right, but what kind of a presence will it be?

* * *

It is not a joke, this issue of priestly celibacy, i.e., to be unmarried for the sake of the Kingdom. Getting married and raising a family is the most natural thing for a man to do. All the 12 disciples of Jesus, it seems, were married, except John. One must be "a little crazy," a fool (for Christ!) and one must rely on supernatural strength to be able to venture on, and to stay on the road of priestly celibacy, and stay chaste! For one can be a celibate, and be unchaste. I have been a priest for 22 years now and the struggle goes on. One time, I asked an old, retired priest when the "struggle" will end. This usually quiet and stoic priest exclaimed: "Only in the grave, Jerry, only in the grave!"

* * *

Let's talk. Let's ask. Let's listen. One time at table, I asked my friends how many of them would favor priestly celibacy. Out of the 12, six were in favor, four were not in favor, and two were for optional celibacy, i.e., let priests have a choice whether to marry or not. Reflecting on the reasons and arguments at the table that night, I remember the emotional intensity of the six and the four, and the sobriety and coolness of the two. I do not know what this means, but the message is that we should talk, we should ask, we should listen, not just with emotions, but with sobriety. And with honesty and humility. And with much prayers, needless to say.

Given an atmosphere where they can speak their minds without being misinterpreted or judged, where they can speak as persons and not as representatives of an institution or as bearers of rules and traditions, I wonder what our priests would say about priestly celibacy. I wonder how those still in formation and those who left the seminary and the ministry think about the whole issue. Yes, we must continue to ask and listen.

I take this opportunity to thank you, dear friends, for all your prayers, support and understanding for us, your priests. In humility, I ask forgiveness for whatever hurts we may have caused you in any way. Through it all, let us not forget though that "with all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams" it's still a beautiful Church, a Church composed of not only Rico Yans, but of Lucio San Pedros and Levi Celerios as well!

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Stay with us Lord, and continue to guide and purify us amid issues that burn us. Amen.

Heart cry to Loren

COMMENTARY

Sylvia L. Mayuga

A FEW moments of reflective quiet for you to read this little letter is one of the things I pray for in a season of new life, Sen. Loren Legarda.

A year and two months have passed since President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed your solid waste management bill into Republic Act 9003. Since then, it has become clear that hopeful activism supporting your law in my hometown is leading not to a healthier environment but a face-off with entrenched shameful habits. Reality sticks its taunting tongue out at RA 9003 with the truth every day in Parañaque: it takes much more than legislation to bring sanity back with sanitation.

Let's lay aside MMDA Chair Ben Abalos' headaches over the final disposal of garbage, with big business scams, media sniping and bitter debate on disposal technology surrounding it from source to destination. The chief must fend for himself amid the macro issues while our backyard teems with garbage generators every bit as tunnel-visioned as Jancom, fat garbage contractors and their corrupt allies in government.

Be it ignorance, indifference, greed, corruption, poverty of spirit, lack of both space and imagination for proper waste disposal—or all of the above—the fact is that both spirit and letter of RA 9003 are being violated with impunity on all levels of our sadly fractured community.

It begins at the top. With the closing of the San Mateo landfill last year, it was in our own City Hall that I first heard of those "secret dumps in Cavite, Bulacan, Laguna and Pasig decided on daily by the MMDA." This was later officially denied, to the raised eyebrows of those privy to the truth. My feisty source, unsung in a profession no one enrolls for, then confessed that she must often accompany the garbage contractor's dump trucks to oversee the job herself.

You see, this contractor's "*paleros*" (after the *palas* or spades they use to sweep garbage into their trucks) leave behind enough refuse at night to oblige City Hall's own dump trucks to sweep after them in the morning. That on top of the fact that collection hours vary unannounced on ordinary days and evaporate on long holidays, resulting in mini-Smokey Mountains everywhere. This, Loren, is when we tremble in anticipation of unholy sights of rats, flies and scavengers.

Why our mayor recommended the renewal of a sloppy company's overblown contract, why our city council approved it without question or rebidding last month, why this contractor cannot be held to regular collection hours and consistent holiday collection are questions I'm still trying to answer. No luck, with officials consistently absent from their offices on junkets, politicking or vacationing in cleaner places, their cell phones turned off.

Neither can I check the costs with them—a monthly P6 million to the contractor plus P4 million to the MMDA for getting rid of the final evidence add up to P10 million monthly and a hefty P120 million a year. How much more is being spent for the regular operations of City Hall's Solid Waste Environmental Service Office and its complement of garbage aides plus a separate Bantay Basura operation—90 individual garbage watchers for 13 barangays—under the vice mayor's office?

Imagine what real ecologists could do if all that money were liberated to address the source of *basura* itself, the way RA 9003 tried to do on paper! Segregation of wet and dry garbage, the basic building block of solid waste management, "is impossible; people just won't do it," says my source. Dedicated as they come, her pessimism tears my heart some more. But you and I are veterans of the impossible in the news game, Loren, and I for one cannot accept this.

I have spent time with squatters living under bridges and see their point about having no ground to bury their biodegradable garbage, as is already being done in several of our subdivisions. Meanwhile, the Rotary Club is doing well, if on a limited scale, with its "*pera sa basura*" project. But while technical problems await solutions and outreach is slow, what is to stop barangay captains, civic leaders, volunteers and concerned citizens from working together in a heart-and-guts grassroots campaign to prove City Hall wrong on segregation and RA 9003? People will segregate if enough time and resources are dedicated to this end. It will take time, of course; it took a year to impose on our own household but in the end, it was done, with happier soil and happier plants in our yard.

So here we are—visions of Zero Waste on one end, impassioned debate on the final destination of garbage on the other. Those who cry out, "Not in our backyard!" like those who answer "But where?" are too many to count. You and I know, Loren, that this dialogue misses the core question. Start where you are with basic segregation, continue moving to its higher stages and let success radiate outward. This is the only way to go, as we will be hearing from the Garbage Summit on April 20 at the Quezon Memorial Circle.

But as we struggle in our neck of the woods and you're in the Senate, don't you think a no-nonsense national inquiry on exactly why RA 9003 isn't flying would be a much better aid to legislation than headline-hunting forays into matters like an Abu Sayyaf-AFP collusion and PEACe Bonds? Taking your law into the grass roots—to infuse its spirit in person—could be the thin line between being a good senator and becoming a great one, my friend.

Sylvia L. Mayuga is a veteran freelance writer on historical and cultural issues.

Apart but together

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THAT was a refreshing piece that Gilda Cordero Fernando wrote last week, about her and husband Manolo's coming 50th wedding anniversary and how people marvel at her marriage's endurance when they hardly see the two of them together.

I don't know what it is about marriage, but once the vows have been said, the public seems to expect the couple to move around like convicts in a chain gang, perpetually tethered to each other. "O, where's your husband?" I'm constantly asked at affairs where I show up all by my lonesome, as if I'd just committed a great faux pas.

The fact is that the hubby, like Gilda's, is basically a shy person, for whom socializing is more a torment than a pleasure. This used to bother me a lot in the early days, wondering if I was doomed to a monastic existence since I had no "consort" willing to tag along everywhere I went.

But in the years since, I've learned that I actually enjoy myself more going to cocktails or dinners by myself, especially if these are connected to my work as a journalist. In the rare times my husband consents to join me, I find that I have to spend most of my time checking on him—Does he have anyone to talk to? Is he feeling neglected and ignored? Have I introduced him to everybody?

In "Bonfire of the Vanities," Tom Wolfe says that in the Manhattan social scene, it's considered a most telling sign of social ineptness when a married couple join a party and stay together and talk to no one else but each other. When I read this, I wondered what was the point of socializing as a couple in such a scene, when you're expected to bid each other farewell at the door upon your arrival, linking up only when you're ready to leave. (And maybe not even then. As "Sex and the City" tells us, in New York it's considered perfectly acceptable to leave a party with someone other than the one you came with.)

* **

WITH A HUSBAND whose idea of a big night on the town is a movie followed by dinner at his favorite Chinatown restaurant or stuffing himself with *"ribsi"* (pork ribs with *sinangag*) at Goodah, this wife has had to device her own social arrangements.

My favorite alternative for over 25 years has been a group of women friends whom I've known since college. One of our children once remarked that we struck him as "just like the 'Sex and the City' women, only older." ***Aray ko*****, but we took the comment in good humor. At once, we competed for the title of alter ego of Samantha, the show's self-confessed and unapologetic slut.**

With these gals, I've been to dinners and receptions, plays and concerts, trolled the malls and explored new and popular restaurants. We don't even need an occasion to get together, just needing to text each other to check if we're free for the night and if all goes well, meeting up some place where we can indulge in our common love for good food, wine, juicy gossip and our favorite game of putting down one another.

Of course, we've also bonded as families, going on trips and outings and attending each other's parties. But we know it's our friendship that holds our small universe together. Once, after not seeing each other for quite a while, we finally decided to go out as a group on a Sunday. While having coffee, we chanced upon a common acquaintance, who wondered what we women were all doing together on a Sunday. When we said we just wanted to get together, she looked at us longingly, remarking "my husband would never allow me to do that, for him, Sunday is strictly family day."

Our conclusion: If any of our hubbies laid down such a law, he'd get laughed off our circle.

* * *

THE POINT I'm trying to make here is that a married woman doesn't need a shadow to make her way through the world. Nor does she need to shadow her husband to feel like she's living up to her status as a wife.

Husband and wife, it's true, both made a vow to stay together "for better or worse," in good times and bad, through the peaks and valleys of human experience. But neither did the vows say they needed to stay glued to each other, day in and day out, irritating the hell out of each other and getting in each other's way.

It may be the artist in him, but the hubby tends to pursue solitary pursuits, like swimming and fishing. Early in our marriage, I felt it was but my wifely duty to accompany him on his fishing trips, and after the first one, I found out I was utterly miserable sitting still in a bobbing boat, bored out of my skull, just watching the water and the slightest movement of the float.

I began to take books with me, but would be interrupted time and again by the hubby who insisted I'd never catch any fish that way.

With time I realized there was no need to make both of us frustrated and unhappy—he because I put a damper on his favorite pastime, me because I actually resented being there—just because I felt it was expected of me to share in everything that made him happy.

With some perspective has come the realization that simply by knowing he's happy, I'm happy, too. So while he's away on fishing trips, I'm content at home, sleeping late and indulging in my favorite TV show-biz talk shows. And when I come home late at night, from dinner with my girl friends or a session discussing the fate of the nation, and I find him shaken from a deep sleep, muttering about the overhead light, I know that everything is well and that despite the distances, our borders still overlap and make a loving marriage.

* * *

Comments to rjdavid@inquirer.com.ph

Ariel Sharon's war

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

IN 1982, Ariel Sharon was Israel's defense minister. Yasser Arafat was the head of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), which was then acting as a government in exile. Two of the biggest refugee camps in which Palestinians who had been driven out of their homes in Northern Galilee had found shelter were Sabra and Shatila in West Beirut, Lebanon. These camps were the natural bases of the PLO.

In September of that year, Sharon took advantage of the chaos triggered by the assassination of Lebanon's president-elect, Bashir Gemayel, to invade Beirut. But his real targets were the refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila, which had been rendered defenseless when the PLO fighters agreed to leave West Beirut, precisely to free Lebanon from the pressure of Israeli air raids. The Israelis saw these camps as the spawning ground of terrorists.

The wily Sharon used Lebanese Christian Phalangist militias and other mercenaries to accomplish one of the most shocking massacres of innocent civilians in modern history. In three days of operations, nearly 3,000 Palestinians were rounded up from their camps, shot and buried by bulldozers under tons of rubble to make it appear they had died as part of the collateral damage of a civil war.

One of the most gripping accounts of this massacre was a book written by a Singaporean woman surgeon, Dr. Swee Chai Ang, titled "From Beirut to Jerusalem." Swee had come to West Beirut from London where she was based to work as a volunteer orthopedic surgeon at the Gaza Hospital near the camps. I dug up her book recently to know more about Sharon, and what I read convinced me even more that what is happening today in the Palestinian areas of the West Bank is a repeat of the 1982 massacres designed by the same butcher who is now Israel's president.

Reflecting on these events, Swee wrote:

"I had thought the old people could retire when the PLO went, and the children could grow up—instead of having bullets put through their heads, and having their throats slit. I was a fool, a real fool. It had never occurred to me that this would happen. It was a grim moment. I felt forsaken by God, by men, by a world without conscience. How could little children suffer the agony and the terror of watching scenes of torture, of their loved ones being killed, of their homes being blown up and bulldozed over? For these children, the mental scars, the psychological wounds would probably never heal. It was one thing to die suddenly. It was entirely different to watch loved ones being tortured and killed, while awaiting one's own turn.

"Who was responsible for all this? It mattered little to me who pulled the trigger. It was who had organized the whole operation—and directed it. The Israelis were obviously responsible.... It was meaningless to say that they had nothing to do with the massacres, because the killings happened precisely as the Israelis invaded West Beirut with the declared intention of flushing out Palestinian 'terrorists.' The Palestinian refugee camps had undoubtedly been their main objective. But it was not obvious that the individuals who had walked into the camps to slaughter defenseless people were Israelis. So what? They took orders from the Israelis. They were fed on Israeli food, and they read Israeli newspapers. They were mercenaries of the Israelis. The camps were illuminated at night by Israeli flares shot into the sky above them, so that the murderers could get on with their crimes."

Global outrage greeted the news of these massacres. As responsibility for these atrocities became clearer in the days following the Sabra-Shatila events, Israel responded by sacking Sharon as defense minister. But it is perhaps a disturbing testimony to the significant support within and outside of Israel for the violent solution he espouses that today this man is his country's prime minister.

It is one of the supreme ironies of history that Israel, a nation that was carved out of Palestine in 1948 to serve as the homeland of a people that had worn exile and persecution like a face, should find itself playing the role of persecutor. Surely the Israelis of today must know that the Holy Land has always been a home to many religions, and that the same Palestinians they now regard as outsiders to Israel have been among the Holy Land's ancient peoples.

Sharon's war of physical extermination against the Palestinian people exploits the same racist bigotry that the Nazis under Hitler mobilized in Germany to rationalize the elimination of six millions Jews during World War II. It is as if the holocaust gave birth to a dark twin that now seeks to avenge its own persecution. Israel's present war against terrorism also rides on the same insecurities that fuelled the Tsarist persecution of the Russian and Polish Jewry toward the end of the 19th century.

Worldwide solidarity with the plight of the Jewish people gave the new Jewish state of Israel the moral warrant it needed after 1948 to defend its right to exist in a hostile Arab environment. After it successfully proved in 1967 that it could also take on militarily all its Arab antagonists, Israel, backed by American arms and money, quickly metamorphosed into an arrogant regional power.

Today it is difficult to imagine Israel as a nation that emerged from a history of persecution. In the eyes of those who sympathize with the dream of an independent Palestinian state, Israel has become an arrogant persecutor of other nations.

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

Quezon in America

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Tip O'Neill, who had served as speaker of the US House of Representatives, once said that all politics is local.

Paraphrasing him, I'd say that all travel is discovery. Or rediscovery, if you missed certain meanings or dimensions about a place the first time around.

This is something that Ambeth Ocampo may have written about already because he was doing some traveling in US institutions last year, I believe. It is a glimpse into a chapter of Philippine history at the US capital.

Every major city has a landmark where the rich and famous, as well as the poor and still famous, gravitated in the past. For instance, the Algonquin Hotel in midtown Manhattan is one such literary landmark where famous writers like Dorothy Parker or legendary actors like Orson Welles lunched or discussed profound subjects almost daily at the Round Table.

The Washington landmarks are plenty, but they're not always on Capitol Hill where the cherry blossoms are now in peak bloom signaling the coming of spring. This itself is a glorious landmark, although you have to go to Japan to see the original blossoms in full glory this time of the year.

You have to go farther up by Metro passing by Dupont Circle and stopping at Woodley Road station. You get out of the intimidating subway exit and look for Calvert Street, specifically Rock Creek Park. There you'll see Omni Shoreham Hotel, which is at the back of Marriott Wardham Hotel, where the annual conference of the Association for Asian Studies is being held.

Weary of panel discussions and their esoteric topics on Asia that conferences invariably attract, renegade participants usually wander around looking for more exciting possibilities. My partners in academic crime are Roger Bresnahan, a professor at Michigan State who did his dissertation on Philippine literature, and Mike Cullinane of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, the acknowledged expert on Manuel Quezon among the American specialists on the Philippines. We were looking for another Philippine history professor, Nita Reyes Churchill, to join us, but being a Washington resident, she was not billeted at the conference hotel.

Our mission and destination: breakfast at the Shoreham. It turned out to be a mini-panel. But more about that later.

The Shoreham is known as the Grand Hotel of the Nation's Capital, a Washington tradition since 1930. All inaugural balls of US presidents, from Franklin D. Roosevelt through Bill Clinton, have been held at the Shoreham.

Combining Renaissance with Art Deco, the hotel covers 16 acres dominated by a cavernous lobby with an intricate network of doors, windows, ceilings, moldings, columns and all kinds of furniture. During its early incarnation (without the Omni which was of later vintage), the Shoreham served as an elite colony where prominent socialites like Evelyn Walsh McLean, Perle Mesta, Elizabeth Low Bacon and Alice Roosevelt Longworth held their private social functions.

But the hotel was also the gathering place for American presidents and leaders of the world. In 1931, a special elevator and ramp were built to accommodate FDR and his wheelchair. Room D-106 was where Harry Truman held his private poker games as his limousine waited to whisk him away to his next appointment. (Who said presidents never gamble?) When he was elected president in 1949, there was a gigantic soiree for 5,200 invited guests, but 8,000 showed up, which created a traffic jam so bad that Truman had to be smuggled in through a back door.

King Saud of Saudi Arabia was also a guest of the hotel and he was known to distribute gold watches to waiters and other personnel who gave him great service. The king gave good business to the hotel as he often had 32 limousines which carried armed bodyguards. During the late 1950s, John Kennedy, then a senator, wooed Jacqueline Bouvier in the famous Blue Room. The celebrities of the time such as Judy Garland, Maurice Chevalier, Bob Hope and Marlene Dietrich all performed in this Blue Room.

Now back to our mini-panel. Rewind to the early 1940s and this is where MLQ figures in our wartime Philippine history in America. When Quezon and his entourage left Corregidor in 1942, they reached the United States via Australia on the s/s President Coolidge. The Commonwealth government was in exile in Washington, and Quezon chose the B wing of the Shoreham Hotel as his permanent residence. His cabinet included Manuel Nieto, Gen. Basilio Valdes, Jaime Hernandez and Joaquin Elizalde as resident commissioner. Vice President Sergio Osmeña was also with the government-in-exile.

Mike Cullinane says that doing research on Quezon is quite rewarding as he wrote an awful lot and even kept receipts! He was writing letters all the time on his passionate obsession: absolute Philippine independence. But at this point in his career, Quezon was suffering from tuberculosis, and the pressures of war and being 10,000 miles away from the Philippines aggravated his condition. Mike said that during the winters, Quezon would vacation in Arcadia, California, where the weather was milder and kinder. In 1944 he died in Saranac Lake, New York, and Osmeña succeeded to the presidency.

Our discussion turned to an earlier time in Quezon's career, when he was a resident commissioner in the United States from 1909-1912. He must have lived around the capitol area then, which must have looked like a wilderness at the time. For the benefit of our younger generations of Filipinos who are unfamiliar with our early history under the Americans, resident commissioners chosen by the National Assembly represented Philippine interests in the US Congress. In their book on Philippine history, Agoncillo and Guerrero note that MLQ distinguished himself as a spokesman of Philippine independence not only in the US Congress but also in open forums sponsored by student, business, media and civic organizations.

Roger Bresnahan remembers a quote which was to precede Quezon's famous statement about preferring a government run like hell by Filipinos than one run like heaven by Americans. Quezon was a fiery speaker but had to be tutored in English, which he picked up marvelously. Roger says that Quezon once quipped, "Democracy can only be learned in English!"

He not only impressed US legislators but also the leaders of the Anti-Imperialist League who were opposed to Philippine annexation, such as Irving Winslow, the association's secretary. Quezon needed them to press his cause with the American people, but it also needed him to tell the United States in no uncertain terms that continued occupation of the Philippines was wrong. Mike Cullinane says that the association was quite exasperated with Quezon at times because he would never quite directly attack the United States on this issue. He had to tread a fine line. He had an extremely difficult and delicate job.

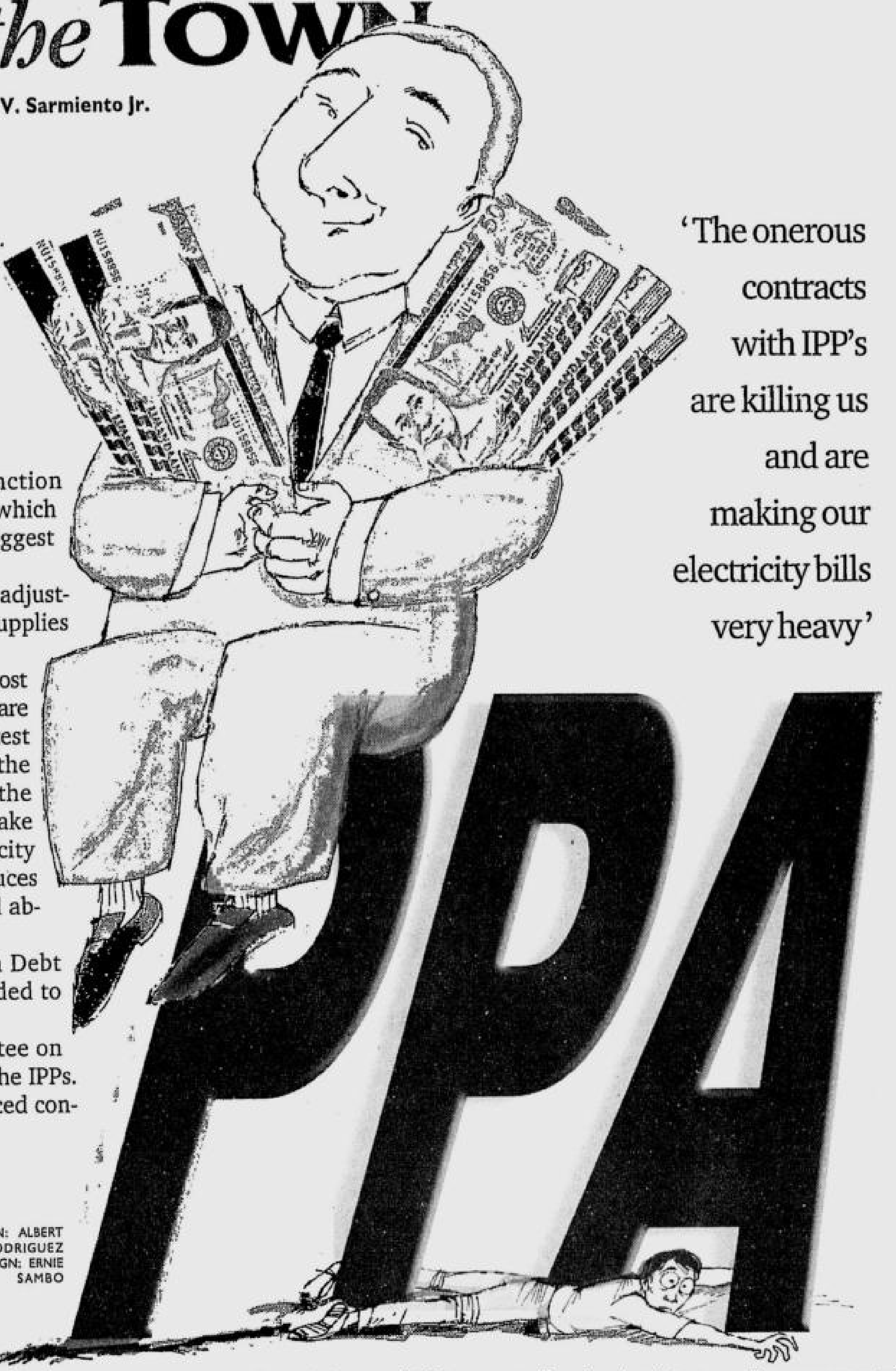
I have a feeling this discussion will continue when we see Nita Churchill.

Belinda A. Aquino from the University of Hawaii at Manoa is writing from Washington, D.C., site of the 54th annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies.

TALK of the TOWN

Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**

What can be done to lower the PPA?



‘The onerous contracts with IPP’s are killing us and are making our electricity bills very heavy’

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ
PAGE DESIGN: ERNIE SAMBO

AN AMERICAN independent power producer (IPP) has earned the distinction of being the country’s most profitable company. Mirant Philippines Corp., which earned a net income of P8.5 billion in 2000, happens to be the country’s biggest power producer with a total installed capacity of 2,500 megawatts.

What makes its business immensely profitable? Answer: the purchased power adjustment (PPA) that consumers pay for every month for the electricity that Mirant supplies to the government-owned National Power Corp.

Public anger over the PPA, which accounts for more than half of the monthly bill of most consumers, is simmering and could boil over. Not a few consumers complain that they are “paying blood” for the PPA. Some groups have already taken to the streets to protest the PPA and Meralco’s plan to raise its rates. They blame the onerous terms of the contracts between Napocor and the IPPs for the high PPA. The terms include the “take or pay agreement,” fuel cost guarantee and overpriced power. Under the “take or pay agreement,” Napocor promises to buy up to 80 percent of the total capacity of an IPP plant whether it needs the electricity or whether the IPP actually produces it. The fuel cost guarantee stipulates that Napocor will supply fuel to the IPP and absorb fluctuations in the cost of fuel.

The Association of Philippine Electric Cooperatives and the Freedom from Debt Coalition as well as individual consumers want the onerous provisions rescinded to make the PPA less burdensome.

Responding to complaints, the government created an inter-agency committee on July 18, 2001 to review at least 40 build-operate-transfer contracts awarded to the IPPs. The committee has yet to finish the review. Malacañang admits that the overpriced contracts are one of the major causes of the country’s high power rates.

‘How is the PPA computed?’

Nicole Tria Tirona
Social development worker

ANY additional expense is burdensome, especially if I don’t know what this PPA is supposed to be for. Was there ever a full-scale information campaign to explain to the public what the PPA is for? The PPA remains burdensome because people can’t accept it as a legitimate expense. How is the PPA computed in the first place? If the government can’t defend the PPA, it should scrap it and get the money somewhere else.

‘Stop punishing consumers’

Cris Deang
Assistant bank manager, Makati

AS I understand it, the huge amount we pay for the PPA is brought about by the agreement reached between Napocor and IPPs during the power crisis in the early 1990s. That crisis was due to the government’s inefficiency. The solution they found for the crisis resulted in this high PPA charge consumers are paying now. Since this mess is the fault of the government, then let it shoulder the PPA charge and stop punishing consumers.

Iluminda Pegollo Almonte
Housewife, Makati

THE AMOUNT I pay for the PPA accounts for more than half of my total bill. I tried to minimize the use of electricity by limiting the use of my washing machine but the PPA is still big. The government should remove the PPA so that my electricity bill will go down. *“Kapag nangyari ‘yon baka magpa*-aircon *na ako.”*

Danny Jalbuena
Empowerment and Reform Movement, Pavia, Iloilo

OUR monthly power bills increased by at least 50 percent because of the PPA. Why should electric cooperatives and consumers shoulder the expenses of Napocor through the PPA due to higher fuel costs and changes in the foreign exchange rate?

‘Scrap the power purchase deals’

Mayla Jandumon
Housewife, Davao City

WHAT should the government do? Scrap the power purchase agreement with private power generation companies, especially the idle ones. In Mindanao, we do not need private power generation companies because we have the Maria Cristina Falls and the Mt. Apo Geothermal Power Plant.

Ivy Perucho
Law student, Quezon City

WHAT the government can do to ease the burden is to rescind the contract it entered into with the independent power producers. Renegotiate the terms of the contract since the (economic) assumptions made at the time the contract was designed no longer hold true.

Romulo Estope
Mechanic, Davao City

“FOR me, it appears that the government has power over our electric bills, but it doesn’t want to move.”

(Interviews by Maricar Tolosa, Chona Galang and Miner Generalao, PDI Research; Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau; and Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau)

‘Pekeng Pangako, Ah’

By Maitet Diokno-Pascual
Freedom from Debt Coalition
and **Louie Corral**
Association of Philippine Electric Cooperatives Partylist

TWO years ago members of the Cabinet and Congress worked over the draft of the Omnibus Power Bill in Subic’s plush Legenda Hotel and Yacht Club. We knew there would be problems when every breakfast, lunch, dinner and coffee break was hosted by Meralco, First Gas, Mirant (Southern Energy Power) Electricité de France, and every other power player you could think of. When the government assigned the SGV/Arthur Andersen Group (of Enron fame) to do the valuation of the National Power Corp. (Napocor) assets, the writing was on the wall.

We didn’t believe their promises then. We still cannot believe them now, with the purchased power adjustment (PPA) going up, up, up. For the record, the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo promised to bring down electricity rates with the passage of the Electricity Industry Reform Act (Republic Act 9136). It promised to break up the monopoly that was Napocor by chopping it up and selling it to the private sector (minus its debts, of course, that we will continue to shoulder). It said competition would happen because of the restructuring of the sector into generation, transmission, distribution and supply, coupled with the deregulation of the generation and supply sub-sectors. Finally, it said the government’s fiscal position would improve as a result of privatizing a company that has long been in the red.

Small users pay more

Less than a year since the passage of RA 9136, we are seeing the PPA charge far exceed the much-ballyhooed 30-centavo mandated rate reduction. Ironically, if your electric consumption is below 300 kilowatt-hour (kWh) a month (because that’s all you can afford and/or that’s all you want to consume), then you pay relatively more for PPA than someone who’s more affluent or with a more “electric” lifestyle. **(*See table*)**

What’s the real score with RA 9136? For one, there will be little competition. By virtue of its franchise, Meralco now controls 70 percent of the nationwide market for electricity. RA 9136 allows the Lopezes to have a stake in power generation and allows Meralco to purchase up to 50 percent of its electricity from sister companies. The only competition one can envision out of this is all those Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and the privatized Napocor generating companies scrambling for a piece of half of the Meralco pie. Of course, Meralco lobbied hard for RA 9136 as it now stands.

Meralco lobby

The entire game of the power lobby, which was also supported by USAID (by the way, foreign funds can’t be used to lobby the government), was to undervalue the assets of Napocor and to overvalue its liabilities. This was to make the takeover of Napocor assets attractive to the private sector. Necessarily, such liabilities would be treated as stranded costs to be passed on either to taxpayers or to the consumers via the PPA. The Meralco lobby was “legitimized” by its unregistered lobbyists Peter Garrucho and Christian Monsod, who successfully convinced legislators to insert amendments and provisions in the bill that allow Meralco to pass on its own stranded costs to consumers and taxpayers.

There was bad faith from the beginning as consumer interest was never part of the overriding legislative framework. In fact the Asian Development Bank spent P50 million for a “Consumer Impact Assessment” that it shared with the public only after much hammering from our groups. The ADB study in fact said that consumers would get a fair share. Upon our questioning the authors of the study had to admit that they assumed a “perfectly competitive” electricity market. That is, they merely assumed that all the benefits being promised by the proponents of the bill would take place. Of course, if you assume that, then it is highly possible that consumers will benefit. You don’t need P50 million from the ADB to say that. But the study did not factor in cross-ownership, the prevalence of bilateral contracts, and the fact that Meralco controlled 70 percent of the distribution sector. The authors of the much-heralded study apparently never read the Power Bill in trying to identify possible mitigating sections.

Consumpt'n (kWh/mo.)	Electricity Charge	PPA (total kWh x P3.187)	Cera (5.87percent of total kWh)	Power Act Reduct'n (total kWh x -0.30)	Total
50	**P87.00**	**P159.35**	P5.11	(P15.00)	P236.46
100	**257.00**	**318.70**	15.09	(30.00)	560.79
150	**427.00**	**478.05**	25.06	(45.00)	885.11
200	**597.00**	**637.40**	35.04	(60.00)	1,209.44
250	**767.00**	**796.75**	45.02	(75.00)	1,533.77
300	**937.00**	**956.10**	55.00	(90.00)	1,858.10
350	**1,190.00**	**1,115.45**	69.85	(105.00)	2,270.30
400	**1,360.00**	**1,274.80**	79.83	(120.00)	2,594.63

Substandard

In promising us cheap electricity, the proponents of the Power Bill also said that we would have “power of choice” and that private sector money such as that of Mirant would light up 8,000 “*O, ilaw!*” barangays. They didn’t say that Mirant and other IPPs were actually just advancing P875 million, which the government would reimburse to these benevolent companies after collecting a missionary electrification charge from us consumers. The catch is that since the IPPs are advancing the amount, government specifications and bidding procedures apparently can be bypassed. This may actually result in substandard equipment or electricity facilities being set up that the taxpayers/consumers will pay for.

They also promised us a wholesale electricity spot market, another much-ballyhooed competitive mechanism that was supposed to be part of the restructuring of the sector. Supposedly, this was where the generated power would be bought and sold, and since there is an oversupply right now then we were being promised that the price would go down. But guess what RA 9136 says: A distribution utility can enter into supply/purchase contracts for up to 90 percent of its electricity needs. That is, in the first five years of restructuring and privatization. Beyond that, the sky’s the limit. So, forget about the spot market, instead of it serving as a benchmark for contracts, it will determine its price level using the contracts as a benchmark. Besides only the losers, those who fail to get a piece of half of the Meralco pie, will be there.

Think of the Aboitizes, the Garcias, the Alcantaras, the rural electric cooperatives, the IPPs many of whom are American (Mirant, Enron, Covanta). What will it take for them to make money in a sector where the ailing Lopez group enjoys a disproportionately large stake? Well the name of the game is cross ownership. Thanks to RA 9136 and its proponents in Congress (the Osmeña cousins, Congressmen Ledesma, Abad and Fuentebella), the Lopezes just set the rules of the game: you have to be in generation and distribution.

Guess who would be the easiest to gobble up among the power players just mentioned: the rural electric cooperatives, of course. The much-trumpeted line is that the electric coops are not only saddled with debt but are also corrupt and overstaffed. Of course, there are (whisper) cherries among them, viable money making coops whose assets are in fact (whisper) undervalued. And the good thing is, they are not part of the Meralco franchise. So, it is cherry-picking time in our tropical islands (with the help no less of Napocor and the National Electrification Administration, which can force these coops to corporatize as a prelude to privatization simply by cutting off power to them).

If you didn’t know it yet, allow us to break it to you gently: A restructured and semi-deregulated electricity industry must discriminate against small consumers. Delivering electricity to small consumers entails high costs and higher possibility of efficiency losses, while the revenue expected from small consumers is well, small. So you won’t be getting those bulk discounts unless you’re a bulk user (like a factory or a mall, or maybe the occupant of Boracay mansion). Because your consumption is small, you will be among the last to have the right to choose from among the various generating companies the cheapest electricity they will sell you. (And like we said, it won’t be that cheap.) Which means that for a large part you will form the captive market of your local distributor (Meralco, Veco, Cepalco, Davao Light, and all those rural electric cooperatives). And guess what electricity gets charged to the captive market: of course, the most expensive.

Don’t forget, that as part of this restructuring/deregulating/privatizing, one thing the government will put an end to is subsidies. Hold on, you may ask: subsidies? Since when did we get one? We thought we were subsidizing those IPPs with the PPA charge in our bills. Believe it or not, right now, households are being subsidized by industries and commercial establishments. And those of us in Luzon are subsidizing the consumption of our sisters and brothers in the Visayas and Mindanao. When these subsidies are removed, households will pay more for electricity and industrial and commercial establishments will see a fall in electricity rates. Heaviest hit would be households in Mindanao and the Visayas.

Onerous

Which brings us back to the PPA. Why does it keep going up? The biggest reason is the contracts with IPPs. Most of the contracts involve Napocor and IPPs. But Meralco has its share of contracts, too, and part of the PPA it’s collecting from its franchise area is to pay for its own contracts with IPPs (including sister companies). These contracts are in dollars, so one reason for the continued increase is the continued weakness of the peso against the dollar. But it’s the onerous provisions in these contracts that are killing us and making our electric bills very heavy, especially for those of us who consume less. These provisions include:

- *“Take or pay agreement”*—Napocor promises to buy from 75 percent to 80 percent of the total capacity of an IPP plant, whether it actually needs the electricity or whether the IPP actually produces it;
- *Fuel cost guarantee*—Napocor will supply fuel to the IPP, and subsequently absorb any fluctuations in the cost of fuel;
- *Overpriced power*—In 1996, the average generating cost of IPPs was $76 per mWh, compared with $57 per mWh for Napocor.

In 1996, Napocor paid IPPs P8.6 billion for such guarantees. By the year 2000, the amount it paid IPPs tripled to P25.8 billion. Collected through the PPA in our bills. We call that capitalism without risk, at the expense of the consumers of course. Indonesians call it organized crime.

Two years ago, watching the deals being made in Subic, we knew this would happen.

Misuari rejects appeals to snub trial

DESPITE appeals by his supporters for him to boycott it, detained Moro leader Nur Misuari will attend his arraignment tomorrow inside a police camp in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

Misuari, who is detained for allegedly leading a short-lived rebellion last year, has rejected calls by leaders of Maradeka, a coalition of 21 Muslim organizations, for him to snub the proceedings.

"He said he'd rather go through the judicial process (than boycott the trial)," said Maradeka's Nash Pangadapon, quoting Misuari's chief legal counsel Firdausi Abbas.

"Our official stand is for Misuari to boycott the trial. The Philippine courts have no jurisdiction over him. This is a political issue. We should respect the 1996 peace accord," he said.

Misuari and seven other aides will be arraigned tomorrow for allegedly ordering the attack on several military outposts in Jolo, Sulu, to stop the holding of the elections in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao last November.

He escaped to Malaysia shortly after but was deported back to the Philippines with seven companions in January and has been detained in the camp since.

A special court was built inside the Special Action Forces training camp for the trial.

While it has failed to convince Misuari not to attend his arraignment, Maradeka said it would mobilize people for a massive protest rally outside the police camp tomorrow. ***TJ Burgonio***

SC issues new rules for youths

THE SUPREME Court has issued two new rules that will benefit youth offenders and those who are dependent, abandoned or neglected.

The rules, drafted by the committee on revisions of the Rules of Court, are to take effect tomorrow.

The new rules are the Rule on Juveniles in Conflict with the Law and the Rule on Commitment of Children.

The first rule "distinguishes and separates children from adults in the criminal justice system" while the second "allows the intervention of family courts and provides a legal basis for the custody of neglected children by duly licensed institutions," said Terrel Hill, a representative of the United Nations Children's Fund.

The SC said both rules are consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a near-universal law.

The Rule on Juveniles in Conflict with the Law applies to all criminal cases involving minors not less than nine but below 18 years old at the time the crime was committed. This rule covers petty crimes like violations of traffic rules and laws and regulations or ordinances of local government units.

The justice system will now treat every juvenile "in a manner that recognizes and upholds his human dignity and worth, and instills in him respect for the fundamental rights and freedom of others," the SC rule states. ***Michael Lim Ubac with a report from Ma. Criselda Yambot***

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Diesel M/T	670,000	**90,000**	26,896	19,188
GLS Gas M/T	705,000	**116,000**	28,301	20,190
Gas A/T	740,000	**128,000**	29,706	21,192
GLS Diesel M/T	720,000	**119,000**	28,903	20,620
Super Sport Diesel M/T	770,000	**114,000**	30,911	22,051
Super Sport Gas M/T	750,000	**115,000**	30,108	21,479
Gas A/T	790,000	**123,000**	31,713	22,624

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Model	ESP	50% D/P	12 mos.	18 mos.	36 mos.	60 mos.
GL Diesel M/T	611,000	305,500	26,590	18,336	10,404	7,356
GLX Gas M/T	645,000	322,500	27,740	19,129	10,856	7,675
Diesel M/T	670,000	335,000	***27,917**	19,299	10,960	7,745
GLS Gas M/T	705,000	352,500	30,038	20,714	11,758	8,311
Gas A/T	740,000	370,000	32,090	22,128	12,557	8,877
GLS Diesel M/T	720,000	360,000	30,725	21,187	12,027	8,501
Super Sport Diesel M/T	770,000	385,000	***32,083**	***21,389**	12,405	8,766
Super Sport Gas M/T	750,000	375,000	***31,250**	21,516	12,219	8,635
Gas A/T	790,000	395,000	***32,917**	22,779	12,935	9,142

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Venezuela provisional gov't installed

CARACAS—Angry street demonstrations in the early hours Saturday ended a temporary calm after the installation of a civilian-led provisional government to replace Hugo Chavez, ousted by three days of strikes and demonstrations.

Venezuela's interim government announced Friday in a televised ceremony the dissolution of all branches of government and the naming of Pedro Carmona, head of Venezuela's most important business association and leader of the opposition to the Chavez administration, as interim president of Venezuela.

Carmona named a Cabinet and other top federal officials, called for new elections and a constitutional convention.

After dark Friday, pro-Chavez demonstrators continued to gather outside the Fort Tiuna military base in Caracas, where Chavez was last seen early Friday.

Helicopters flew over the fort which is located in a poor area where many Chavez supporters live.

About 200 meters from the base, demonstrators chanted, "Chavez has been kidnapped," and "Free Chavez," according to AFP reporters who also heard gunshots, without being able to distinguish whether demonstrators, police or military were firing.

Other demonstrators who supported Chavez's populist policies banged empty pots in poor as well as middle-class residential areas of Caracas.

"I would like to be able to explain why, in the first few hours of our new government, such undesirable events happen, but we aren't promoting retaliation or hatred. We identify ourselves with pacifism," Carmona said.

Soon after the installation of a new government, police raided headquarters of the Bolivarian Circles, the armed groups of Chavez supporters that police say fired upon anti-Chavez demonstrations.

At least five persons were arrested under suspicion of taking part in the groups, including judicial police chief Miguel Dao. Large caches of arms were seized, police said. *AFP*

CARMONA flashes the victory sign after taking his oath. REUTERS

Chavez rise and fall a tale of revolution and dashed hope

By Steve Gutkin

KABUL—Raising his baritone voice and clenching his fists, Hugo Chavez invoked Jesus Christ and Simon Bolivar as he railed against Venezuela's upper classes, calling them "squealing pigs" and "rancid oligarchs."

Mesmerized crowds chanted "Chavez! Chavez!" as he stood before them in military fatigues promising redemption for the poor. How the former coup plotter went from national savior to failed politician is a tale of revolution and hope, anguish and disillusion.

His rise to the presidency in 1998—six years after staging a bloody coup attempt—was a stunning blow to the political and economic establishment that had ruled Venezuela during 40 years of democracy.

People danced in the streets and set off fireworks in celebration of what many viewed as a victory of the poor over a corrupt political elite.

"Venezuela is being born again," Chavez declared the night he was elected.

After three years of a tumultuous, fitful presidency, Chavez finds himself in the same place he occupied after trying, as a young paratrooper, to overthrow the government of then-president Carlos Andres Perez—under arrest.

Chavez often criticized Perez for turning his army's guns on protesters during price riots in 1989. Yet when more than 150,000 Venezuelans took to the streets this week to support an anti-government strike, Chavez's own National Guard—along with pro-Chavez gunslingers—opened fire on them, killing at least 14 people and injuring about 240.

Facing a military revolt, Chavez resigned and was taken to an army base Friday to await possible charges stemming from the violence.

Chavez's finest hour may not have been his election to the presidency or his victorious, electrified speeches from the palace balcony after overhauling every Venezuelan institution from Congress to the Supreme Court.

It more likely was at the end of 1999, when massive flooding and landslides killed thousands of people in and around the capital of Caracas.

Chavez personally directed much of the relief effort and, departing from his diatribes against the "degenerate oligarchy," praised the private sector for putting their helicopters, airplanes, food, money and other resources at the service of the victims.

There were always two Chavezes—one who, dressed in combat fatigues, railed against the rich while galvanizing the poor, and another dressed in a suit who tried to curry favor with diplomats and investors. *AP*

US says Iran helping al-Qaida, argues for use of force in Iraq

WASHINGTON—US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld accused Iran late Friday of providing sanctuary to associates of Saudi extremist Osama bin Laden and raised the possibility that military force would be used against Iraq.

The charges came as Washington stepped up pressure on both countries in the hope of minimizing their involvement in the escalating Israeli-Palestinian violence.

"Iran has been helping the al-Qaida, there's no question," said Rumsfeld on CNN's "Larry King Live" program. He was referring to the network set up by Bin Laden.

"They have a long border with Afghanistan and there is no question that al-Qaida have moved in and found sanctuary—some have stayed there, some have been in transit—and that Iran has not been helpful to the war on terrorism," he explained.

A US Central Command spokesperson said he could not provide any specific data on how many fighters from al-Qaida, which Washington blames for the Sept. 11 attacks on the United Stated, had sought refuge in Iran and where they might be located.

Rumsfeld refused to say whether the US military would consider launching cross-border raids into Iran from Afghanistan to destroy al-Qaida safe havens, arguing "that's not for me to decide."

But earlier in the day, answering a broader question about future US operations in Washington's "war on terror" in an interview with MSNBC television, the defense secretary made clear that cross-border pursuit of suspected terrorists was under consideration.

"They're in the mountains, they're in the villages, they're also over the borders and attempting to regroup from time to time," he said of al-Qaida and Taliban fighters. "We intend to find those pockets as they assemble and go after them and capture them to the extent we're successful."

Commenting on the situation in Iraq, Rumsfeld said President Saddam Hussein's quest for weapons of mass destruction and his readiness to kill people, including his own, made a hands-off approach to that country impossible. *AFP*

Ageing meet adopts action plan

MADRID, Spain—Delegates from 160 countries at a UN conference on aging agreed unanimously Friday to commit their governments to promote the health and well-being of the elderly and help poor countries cope with rapidly aging populations.

However, their 44-page "International Plan of Action on Aging" contained no specific means of financing or monitoring such commitments, sought by developing countries.

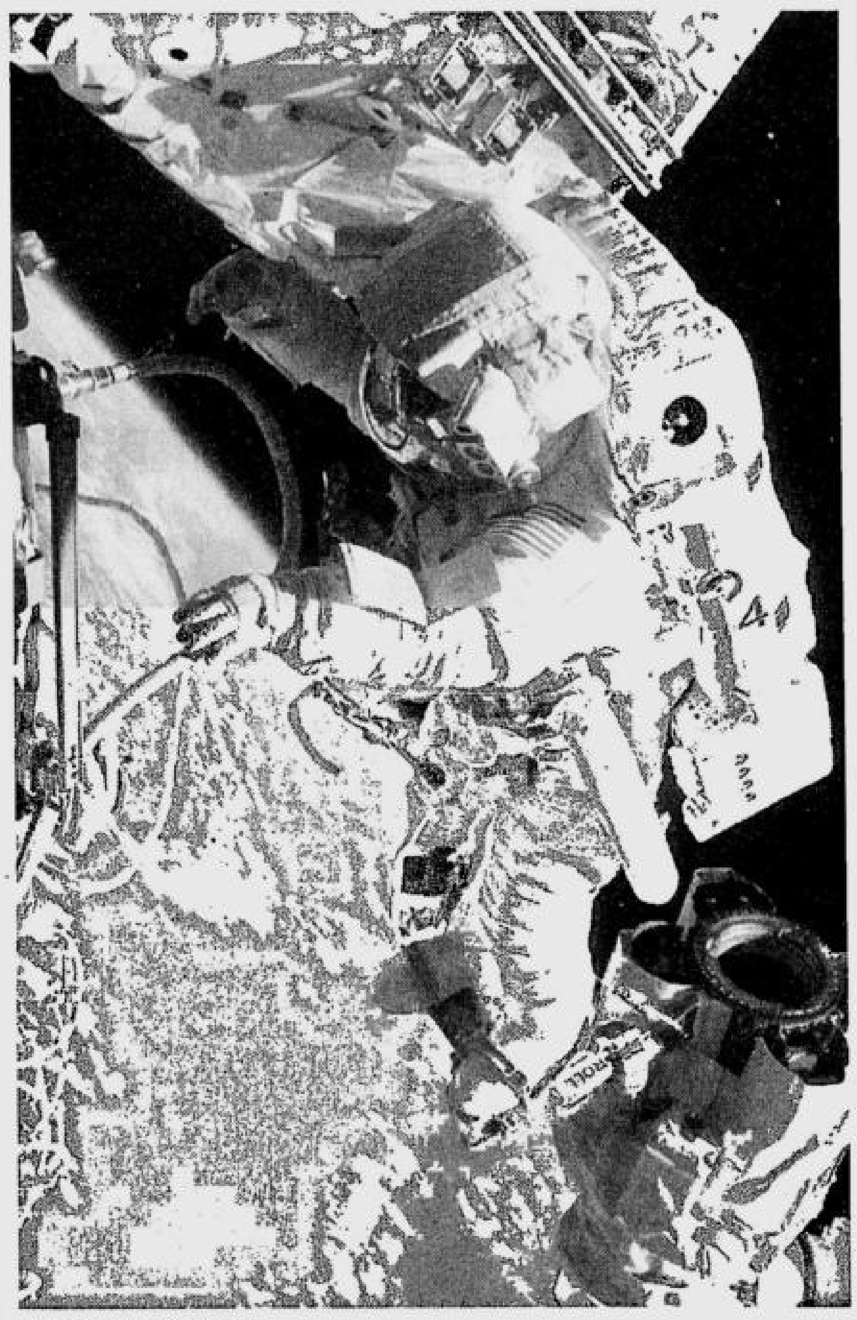
The number of people 60 and older is projected to grow from 600 million to nearly 2 billion by 2050.

"This demographic transformation challenges all our societies to promote increased opportunities, in particular for older persons to realize their potential to participate fully in all aspects of life," the delegates said in a separate statement.

The conference spoke out against abuse of older people and in favor of equal rights for older men and women, more research on aging, and opportunities for the elderly to work "as long as they wish."

In the action plan, they said "a society for all ages" should include improved elderly access to public health services, prevention of old-age dependency, research into aging topics and inclusion of younger generations in elderly life.

Fanta Sisay, a member of Gambia's delegation, called the action plan "a step forward" but said "more needs to be done" to help families in poor countries pay to care for aging relatives. *AP*



SPACE WALKER AFP

US space shuttle Atlantis astronaut Rex Walheim rides the International Space Station's CandaArm2 April 11 to connect some cables to the newly installed S Zero truss. Walheim and fellow space walker Steve Smith secured the truss and made service connection in this first of four planned space walks.

Milosevic ally attempts suicide

BELGRADE—A former Serbian minister who shot himself outside parliament rather than face extradition to the UN war crimes tribunal in The Hague, was near death on Friday as new Yugoslav legislation on turning over suspects went into force.

"We know there is no hope," the doctor treating Vlajko Stojiljkovic, Branko Djurovic told Beta agency.

A former interior minister Stojiljkovic, 65, shot himself in the head outside the Yugoslav parliament on Thursday evening, just hours after the assembly passed a bill allowing the extradition of indicted war criminals to the International Criminal Court for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague.

An ally of former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic and himself facing charges on war crimes and crimes against humanity, Stojiljkovic left a suicide note which was read by officials from the radical Serbian Socialist Party outside parliament shortly after his suicide bid.

In it, Stojiljkovic blamed the government of President Vojislav Kostunica for allowing the passage of the legislation which he described as "a treason" against Serbs who had fought against "Albanian terrorism" in Kosovo in 1998 and 1999. *AFP*

Afghan war seen costing US $10.2B this year

AFGHAN men pray at the Puli Khishti mosque in Kabul April 12. The United States defended its record in contributing to reconstruction in Afghanistan, where interim leader Hamid Karzai complained this week that donors were not doing enough to help his country. REUTERS

WASHINGTON—The war in Afghanistan probably will cost $10.2 billion this year, US Congress' nonpartisan budget analyst is estimating, a figure that seems roughly in line with projections the Pentagon has been making.

The Congressional Budget Office estimate covers the federal fiscal year that runs through Sept. 30. It assumes that the defense department will follow through on announced plans to withdraw some troops and ships from the area, and that fewer targets remain than existed when the war began last October.

"If operational conditions change from those assumed in the estimate, however, then the costs may be higher or lower than CBO estimates," the budget agency said in an April 10 letter providing the data to Sen. Pete Domenici.

The estimate excluded the defense department's broader costs of battling terrorism in the United States, such as providing combat air patrols over some American cities, or in other parts of the world besides Central Asia. It also omitted the price tags of economic and humanitarian aid to Afghanistan and nearby nations.

So far this year, Congress has provided $17.4 billion to the defense department for the overall war against terrorism abroad and at home. In March, President George W. Bush requested another $14 billion for the Pentagon for the remaining months of this fiscal year. Lawmakers have yet to begin writing that bill.

The Pentagon and Bush administration have provided little public information about precisely how much anti-terrorism money has paid for costs of US operations in and around Afghanistan, which have involved hundreds of aircraft, 80,000 troops and dozens of ships.

Pentagon officials estimated in February that the war was running about $1.8 billion per month, but that included the costs of defense department activity in the United States. *AP*

Vietnam eyes cut in death penalties

HANOI, Vietnam—Communist Vietnam is considering a reduction in the number of crimes punishable by death and is seeking an alternative to the firing squad for executions, state-controlled media said Saturday.

"The world trend is to gradually reduce death penalties. We are considering a step-by-step reduction in the number of crimes punishable by death, except for treason," the Tuoi Tre (Youth) newspaper quoted Truong Vinh Trong, head of the Communist Party's Internal Political Commission, as saying.

Trong said the Communist authorities should also find a "more scientific way" of carrying out executions than the firing squad.

"Our executions are by firing squad, which is appalling and is no longer suitable. We can use several other ways of carrying out executions such as lethal injections and electrocution," he was quoted as saying. *AP*

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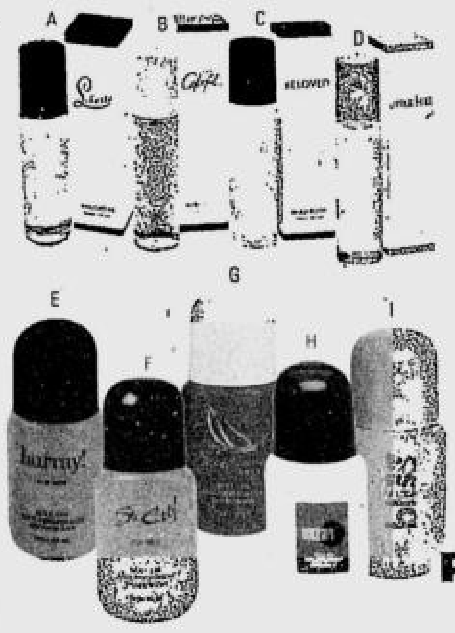

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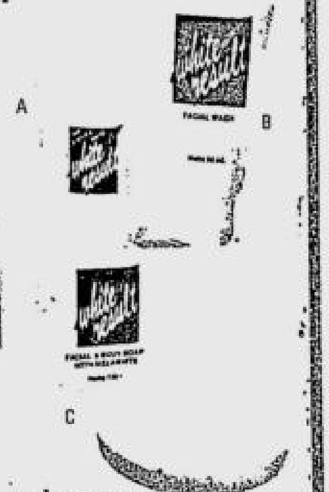

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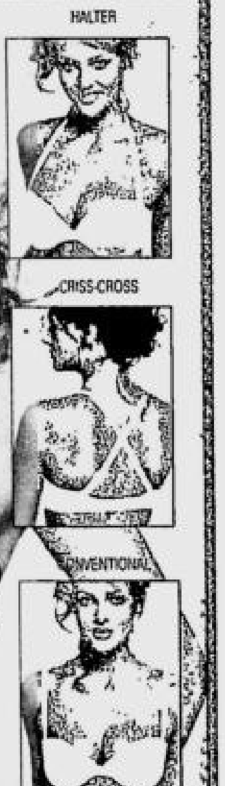

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SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2002

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ANTI-DROUGHT MEASURE

Dam construction rushed in Pampanga

By Tonette Orejas,
PDI Central Luzon Desk
and Jovelyn Reyes,
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

ARAYAT, Pampanga—The completion of a Japanese-funded dam here, whose study and construction dragged on for 26 years due to protests, is being rushed to save from drought at least 11,000 hectares of farmlands in Pampanga.

In Benguet, Gov. Raul Molintas said more than 10,000 hectares of vegetable farms in at least two towns in the province were destroyed by drought.

Molintas said vegetables planted in January in La Trinidad and Buguias towns withered due to insufficient rainfall.

In Pampanga, Reynaldo Mencias, manager of the Pampanga Delta Development Project-Irrigation Component, said the dam would be ready for operation starting June or a month before the expected resurgence of El Niño, a weather phenomenon characterized by prolonged drought.

Mencias said the P4.2-billion project is more than 95 percent completed. A few segments of drains and canals are being completed, he said.

The project, funded by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, features an 850-meter long diversion dam, 126,000-meter long irrigation canals and a pumping station with three sets of mixed flow pumps.

The dam would divert the water from the Pampanga River to the towns of Arayat, Sta. Ana, Mexico, San Luis, San Simon, Candaba and Apalit to supply year-round irrigation.

Mencias said the National Irrigation Administration seeks to cushion the impact of the drought on some 7,000 farmers planting rice and vegetables in those seven eastern towns.

Agriculture officials in Central Luzon reported that Nueva Ecija, Tarlac and Zambales felt the brunt of the drought, suffering at least P5.8 million in palay losses since March.

Mencias also allayed fears of farmers in nearby Nueva Ecija that the dam would cause floods in San Antonio and Cabiao towns.

San Antonio Mayor Jose Salonga and Cabiao Mayor Gloria Congco had earlier led protests in a bid to protect some 8,200 hectares at the San Antonio Swamp from being catch basins of floodwater.

The 1,500-hectare swamp is nestled between the Rio Chico and Pampanga rivers and is north of the dam area.

A NIA study conducted by the project's Japanese consultant firm showed that the swamp is "normally flooded and uncultivated during rainy season."

Almost 900 hectares in the swamp are planted with rice and vegetables during the dry season, the study added.

In Benguet, Molintas said many farmers in the province were "deceived" by the heavy rainfall in December 2001 and January this year and proceeded to plant vegetables.

"Unfortunately, it didn't rain much after that, causing their farms to dry up and their maturing vegetables to wither," Molintas said.

He said the provincial government has set aside P5 million as contingency fund to help farmers in the province cope with the effects of the drought.

Department of Agriculture officials in the Cordillera said they are expecting that Abra and Benguet would be severely affected by the drought in October.

The provinces are cultivating at least 70,000 hectares of farmlands.

Elizabeth Versola, Department of Agriculture Cordillera director, said farmers in these provinces should not plant during the next planting season scheduled in August.

"They should not take the risk because they will only lose more," she said.

She said the DA has formulated a new planting calendar to ensure that crop development will not happen at the height of El Niño.

Versola said Cordillera farmers should also shift into planting crops that can easily be harvested and need little water like pechay, lettuce and other leafy vegetables.

Iloilo water district gets flak over river

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Officials in Iloilo province have accused the Metro Iloilo Water District (MIWD) of extracting more water in Tigum River in Maasin town than what was allowed by the National Water Resources Board.

Iloilo Gov. Tupas and Maasin Mayor Mariano Malones have asked the MIWD to disclose the volume of water it is extracting because the communities downstream of Tigum River have complained that they no longer have water for washing clothes and bathing their carabaos. They also noticed that their dug wells along the river have dried up.

Albeto Villasis, operations manager of the MIWD, maintained that the water district is only getting 350 liters per second from Tigum River as mandated by the NWRB.

But Tupas and Malones doubted the MIWD statement.

Malones said he suspected that all of river's water was diverted to the two MIWD pipes, as the Daja dam at Tigum River no longer overflows.

Livino Duran, provincial environment and natural resources officer (Penro) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, was also puzzled why there was no overflow in Daja dam if the MIWD was extracting only 350 liters per second.

"Where are the remaining 300 plus liters per second going?" asked Duran.

He said a recent survey conducted by the Penro showed there is enough water in Daja dam. Data showed that on April 2 there was 714.8 liters per second flowing upstream while there was 656 liters per second on April 4.

The Maasin Watershed, which nourishes Tigum River, is one of the most successful watershed rehabilitation projects in the country. It was reforested through participation of communities living inside the 6,100-hectare watershed. As a result, its many streams and creeks flow perennially, the DENR said.

Before 1999, the MIWD extracted water at 64 liters per second from Daja Dam. But when it installed its additional 24-inch pipe as part of its expansion program, extraction increased to 350 liters per second, or a 44 percent increase from its 1998 levels.

Malones said the MIWD should shut down one of its pipes for two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon so that farmers in Maasin, Cabatuan and Sta. Barbara would enjoy water.

But the MIWD was already warning consumers of impending water rationing due to "low water pressure" caused by the decrease of flow in Tigum River. Consumers in Iloilo City as well as in the towns of Pavia, Sta. Barbara, Cabatuan and Maasin would be affected by the rationing.

But the MIWD has refused to disclose data on its water extraction this summer. The Tigum-Aganan Watershed Management Board and the Iloilo Watershed Council recently asked MIWD to join the board and the council but the water district questioned the mandate of the two bodies.

Le Jayme Jalbuena, manager of MIWD, said in a March 27 letter to the board and the council that the authority to regulate the use of water and the issuance of water permit or rights rests on the NWRB.

Capiz celebrates 100 years of provincial governance

ROXAS CITY—Capiceños are gearing up for the centennial anniversary of the establishment of the provincial government in Capiz tomorrow.

Capiz provincial administrator Dante Bermejo said the provincial government has lined up several activities, which kicked off yesterday and will peak on Monday.

The three-day affair will feature a cultural show, grand parade, history quiz about Capiz, memorabilia exhibit and awarding of outstanding Capiceños.

Bermejo said the centennial celebration carries the theme, "Ang Nakaligad Sandigan Sang Buasdamiag," to enjoin every Capiceño to know his roots and the province's history to be able to move forward and tackle the future with confidence.

The centennial celebration also coincides with the death anniversary of President Manuel Roxas, the first president of the American-restored Republic of the Philippines and the last president of the Commonwealth.

Roxas City Mayor Antonio del Rosario said he hoped the centennial celebration would spur tourism in the city and in the province.

The city is the only one in the region where a president was born, he added.

The civil government in Capiz was first established in 1901 shortly after the province's liberation from Spain and a brief conflict with the Americans.

Gov. William Taft inaugurated the provincial government of Capiz on April 15, 1901 by virtue of the Philippine Commission Act No. 115.

The first civil government on Panay Island was established in Iloilo on April 11, 1901.

The second was Capiz on April 15 of the same year.

To commemorate the birth of Capiz's civil government 100 years ago, local officials will unveil the marker of Act No. 83 in front of the Capitol.

There will also be a seafood festival dubbed "Luto Kinapisnon (food cooked the Capiceños' way)" at the city plaza to showcase the rich marine and aquatic resources of Capiz's territorial waters. A live band will be on hand to entertain the visitors.

The occasion will also honor civil servants and public officials who have excelled in their respective fields of endeavor. ***Gerry T. Pagharion, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Government sets aside ₱1.5B for irrigation in Mindanao

DAVAO CITY—The government has allocated at least P1.5 billion for irrigation development in Mindanao.

Jesus Emmanuel Paras, administrator of the National Irrigation Administration, said the fund represents about 21 percent of P7.121 billion earmarked for irrigation development under the 2002 national budget.

Paras said the allocation would benefit some 5,502 hectares of potential irrigable area and rehabilitate about 18,268 hectares of irrigated lands across Mindanao.

Mindanao's potential irrigable area currently stands at 959,000 hectares or 30 percent of the country' potential irrigable area. However, only 28.7 percent of these are irrigated, compared to 52 percent in Luzon and 45 percent in the Visayas.

Paras said of the total NIA budget, about P5.6 billion have been earmarked for big-ticket and foreign assisted projects, while nearly P1.5 billion will be for locally funded projects.

Under the Mindanao allocation, 46 percent or P692 million will go to the Caraga region, specifically for its Lower Agusan Irrigation Project, while P492 million will be used to complete the Mal-Mar Irrigation Project in Carmen, Cotabato.

Other regions included in the irrigation budget for Mindanao were Western Mindanao (P62.3 million), Northern Mindanao (P101 million), Southern Mindanao (P119 million) and Central Mindanao (P51 million.)

Paras said aside from the Lower Agusan and Mal-Mar Irrigation Projects, NIA is currently implementing three major foreign-assisted projects.

These are the Water Resources Development Project, Southern Philippines Irrigation Sector Project and the Grains Sector Development Project.

With over 40 percent of the food produced in the country coming from Mindanao, experts say that by directing a larger share of the country's agricultural development resources to the island, Southern Philippines would be able to address the country's food security needs for the 21st Century. ***Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

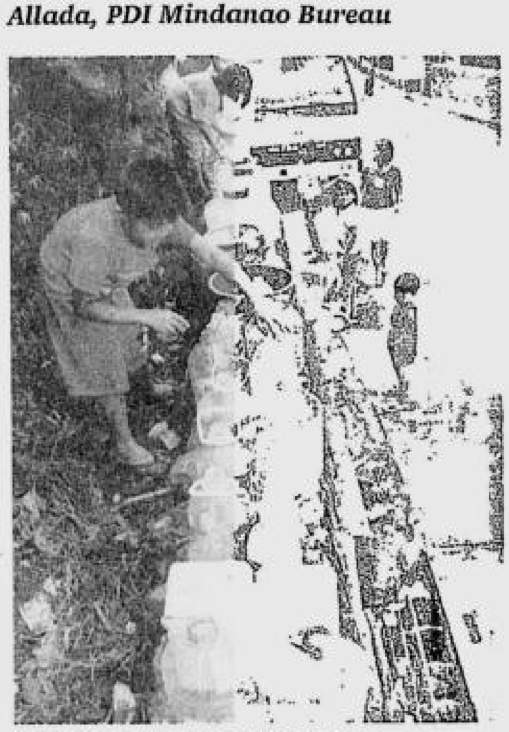
WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: The Eastern sections of Visayas and Mindanao and extreme Northern Luzon will experience partly cloudy to cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Clear to partly cloudy	HI35° Lo22
Baguio	Partly cloudy	HI 27° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Partly cloudy to cloudy	HI 35° Lo 27°
Laoag	Partly cloudy	HI 33° Lo 22°
Clark Zone	Clear to partly cloudy	HI 34° Lo 22°
Tagaytay	Partly cloudy	HI 32° Lo 20°
Legazpi	Partly cloudy	HI 33° Lo 23°
Calapan	Partly cloudy	HI 33° Lo 22°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly cloudy	HI 34° Lo 24°
Roxas	Partly cloudy	HI 32° Lo 26°
Cebu	Partly cloudy	HI 32° Lo 25°
Tacloban	Partly cloudy	HI 33° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Partly cloudy	HI 34° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly cloudy	HI 33° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly cloudy	HI 33° Lo 23°
Davao	Partly cloudy to cloudy	HI 34° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Armin P. Adina, PDI Research/04/13/02



BAGUIO'S WATER SHORTAGE
Children line up buckets to be filled at a privately drilled water pump in Baguio City.

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REDUCED STRENGTH?

Sayyaf threat over—Cimatu

CIMATU

ISABELA CITY—After telling Davao City reporters on Tuesday that he was concentrating on the growing threats brought about by the Abu Sayyaf and other armed groups in Mindanao, Southern Command chief Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu on Friday said Basilenios could now sleep soundly at night.

Was Cimatu dreaming or was he being inconsistent?

Or was he just trying to polish his image for his impending ascension to the military's highest post?

"The Abu Sayyaf problem in Basilan is over," he declared.

Cimatu said that as far as he was concerned, the Abu Sayyaf's fighting capability has been drastically reduced.

He also said the number of bandits has decreased since the all-out military operation was launched against the Abu Sayyaf.

"The Sayyaf's strength from 1,200 in Basilan and Sulu has been dramatically reduced. There are now about 60 bandits in this province and 20 more in Sulu," Cimatu told reporters here.

He said that as proof of the reduced threat, passenger jeepneys have started plying Tipo-tipo, Sumisip, Tuburan and Maluso again. These routes were previously feared by jeepney operators because of ambuscades, hold-ups and extortion activities staged by the bandit group.

Cimatu also said there has been no hostage-taking activity by the Abu Sayyaf after the Dos Palmas incident last May.

But military and police reports indicated that on June 11, 2001, the Abu Sayyaf abducted at least 15 persons from the Golden Harvest Plantation in Barangay Tairan in Lantawan town. Two of the hostages were later beheaded.

On August 8, the bandit group struck in Barangay Balobo, Lamitan and abducted 29 people. Eleven of the victims were killed by decapitation.

By Oct. 3, the growing list of the bandit group's victims increased after three carpenters were snatched in Barangay Atong-atong, also in Lamitan. The bandit group beheaded two of the victims, while the third managed to escape.

Cimatu, however, admitted that even with the "decreased threat," all is not well in the province.

"Perception that terrorism brought about by this group is still evident persists because of the remaining three hostages in captivity," Cimatu added. ***Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

SC ruling on Balikatan pleases US ambassador

CEBU CITY—"That's nice. We respect it"

This was the reaction of American Ambassador Francis Ricciardone to the Philippines on the ruling of the Supreme Court, upholding the legality of the Balikatan 02-01.

"I am pleased that's the way it is going," he told a news conference at the Cebu Marriott Hotel on Friday.

Despite the protests against the joint military exercises, Ricciardone said he believed that there were no big issues involving the Balikatan.

He maintained that both the governments of the Philippine and the United States were meeting the expectations set on the joint training exercises.

Ricciardone had been in Cebu since Thursday for an official visit. On Friday, he had a meeting with the members of the American Chamber of Commerce in the Philippines-Cebu as well as the officials of the Armed Forces Central Command based in Camp Lapu-lapu. He also met with Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal.

Voting 10-3, the SC on Thursday dismissed the petition of former Integrated Bar of the Philippines officials Arthur Lim and Paulino Ersando and the petition for intervention filed by the Partido ng Manggagawa and the Sanlakas, seeking to stop the ongoing military exercises.

The High Tribunal said the holding of the war games between the US and Philippine troops "has not intruded into the penumbra of error that would otherwise call for correction on our part."

The SC also said the conduct of the war games was legal until such time that it could be rightfully proven otherwise.

The ruling came eight days before the scheduled arrival of additional US troops for the Balikatan 02-02, which would kick off on April 22.

Ricciardone noted that the Balikatan joint military exercises have worked "very very well" since the agreement was signed in 1999.

He said both governments have found new and better ways to advance cooperation in the area of defense while respecting the sensibilities of the residents of both countries. ***Connie E. Fernandez, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Another robbery stalks Cebu

CEBU CITY—Another daring daytime robbery happened in Cebu City on Friday, prompting acting Mayor Michael Rama to give the police an ultimatum to normalize the peace and order situation in the city or face the wrath of local officials.

Three armed men robbed a Shell gasoline station in Barangay Banilad shortly after noon on Friday, three days after five armed men robbed bank employees of P2.1 million in cash at the parking area of the White Gold Club, a superstore at the North Reclamation Area. ***Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Leukemia from toxic waste downs another 'Gapo boy

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

OLONGAPO CITY—The People's Task Force for Bases Clean-Up (PTFBC) on Friday appealed for support for a boy stricken with leukemia that was suspected to have been acquired from exposure to toxic wastes in a former American naval base here.

Leukemia has earlier killed two boys, including an Amerasian, in Olongapo City where numerous leukemia cases have been reported in communities next to the former Subic Naval Base.

The PTFBC said Baltazar Vequilla, 14, needs immediate help for an antibiotic regimen that will treat an infection common to leukemia patients.

Leonila Felicen, PTFBC health coordinator, said the 10-day treatment costs P60,480. This is necessary because without it, Vequilla could not proceed with his chemotherapy at the Philippine General Hospital's cancer institute.

Felicen said the regimen and the two-year chemotherapy and maintenance, which began at the institute last March, costs P133,702.

Vequilla, called Bal by his relatives, comes from an indigent family who could not afford the treatment. He finished elementary only last March through the help of his two sisters who are both maids. His father is a fisherman and his mother is a laundry woman.

They live in house made of scrap materials in Barangay New Ilalim that gets flooded during heavy rains. The city government shelters them in an evacuation center when the village is flooded.

The house is along a river that divides the former Subic Naval Base and Olongapo villages. Vequilla, according to the PTFBC, swims in this river which drains out to the Subic Bay.

Vequilla's symptoms of leukemia first surfaced on Feb. 8 when he had fever, bleeding gums and bruises on his skin.

"The toxic link of his sickness is most probably due to the fact that they live very close to the base, consume seafood from Subic Bay and bathe at the river where base wastes used to flow. They live in a community that gets flooded with water from Subic Bay and fetch water for bathing, cooking and other purposes, other than drinking, from a neighbor's deep well," Felicen explained.

Dr. Theodore Schettler of the Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility recommended that "fishing and shell fishing in Subic Bay should be restricted until such time that these organisms are determined to be safe."

No test has been done on organisms in the bay, according to a monitoring report of the task force.

The Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority in April 2000 shut down 23 sites confirmed contaminated with various toxic and hazardous wastes. But the SBMA and the Department of Agriculture have not banned fishing activities at the bay, it was learned.

Felicen said the likes of Vequilla have managed to get medical help through the support of donors.

The Philippine government has not funneled funds for the medical needs of toxic waste victims aroupd Clark in Pampanga and Subic. The United States government has repeatedly refused to accept responsibility for the toxic waste problem.

Another boy, Jaster Bernal, 3, hurdled the infection through a treatment funded by Kara Magsanoc Alikpala, Ricky Reyes, Doctor Balatbat of the PGH oncology department, Ramon Acoymo, Sen. Sergio Osmeña III and several INQUIRER readers.

Vequilla is confined at Ward 9, Bed 14 of the PGH. The Vequilla family and the PTFBC can be reached through telephone numbers (02) 925-4147 or at 0919-836-3061 or at e-mail address basecln@skyinet.net.

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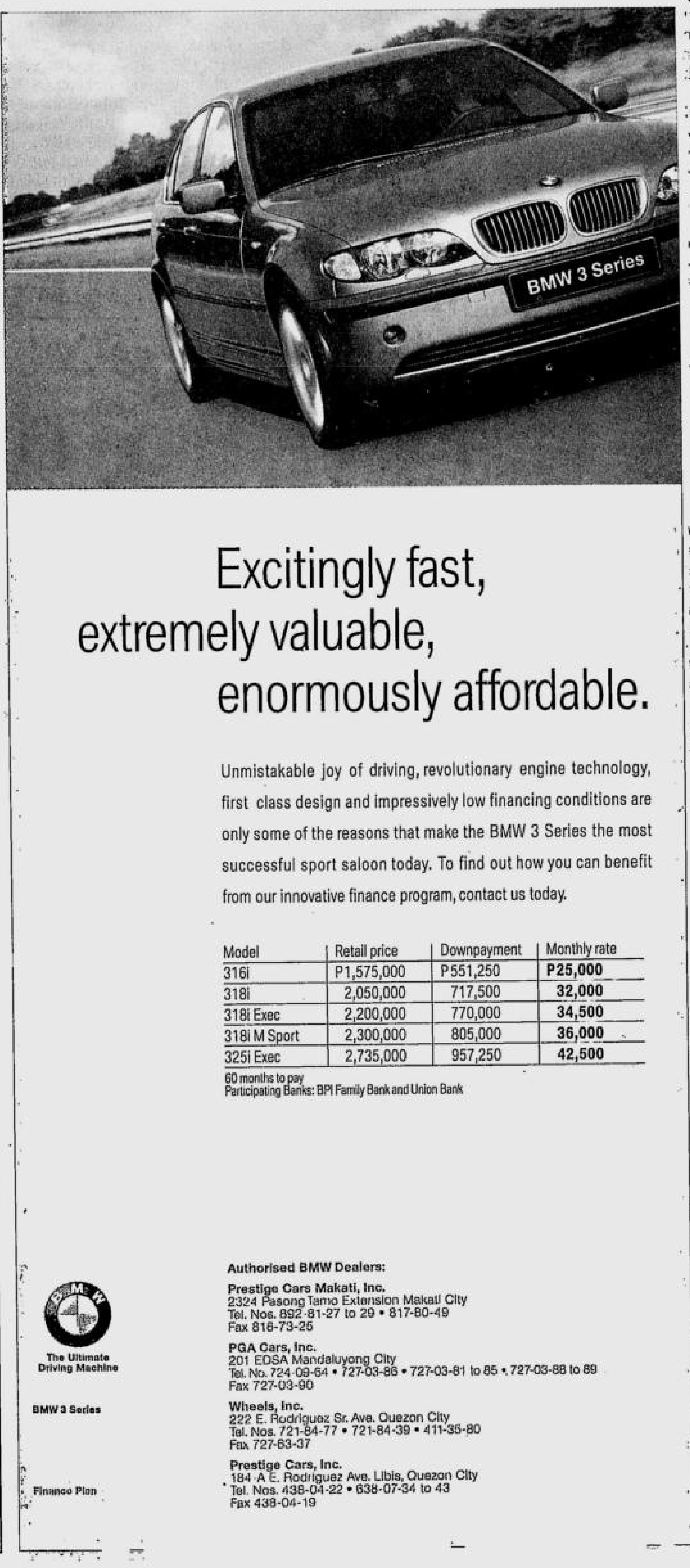

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INQUIRER*Mindanao*

Editor **Jun Bandayrel** ◎ *Bureau Chief* **Nico A. Alconaba**

HINATUAN BAY

A sanctuary of 5 sea turtle species

By Ramon Jorge Sarabosing
Surigao del Sur

ONE Bay, five species of *pawikans*: Rowan Byrne and children free *pawikan* to the sea.

RAMON JORGE SARABOSING

WHERE in the country can you find five species of endangered marine turtles in one spot?" asked Rowan Byrne, an Irish marine and freshwater biologist, as he points at a map of the Hinatuan Bay off the town of Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur.

The bay is bounded by the Pacific Ocean and a coastline of white beaches, forested limestone formations and mangrove trees.

Thirteen islands and islets dot the bay, which is also home to the *dugong* (sea cow), based on a recent sighting by Byrne.

"Hinatuan is a paradise of marine creatures. That is a fact and we must preserve the area," Byrne said. For him, he has only scratched the surface.

After an initial recording and monitoring, he is convinced that the bay is a natural breeding and feeding ground for marine turtles. The species include the Green Turtle, Loggerhead, Hawksbill, Leatherback and Olive Ridley.

"There's probably nowhere in the country that is a territorial domain of five marine turtles species out of seven known species in the world. Olive Ridleys and Hawksbills are the most endangered and they are found here," he said.

The turtles are seen anytime of the year, from Baculin Point to the Mahaba Island, including the Singuroy Island, Campa, Harip, Portlamon, Pangasinan Island, Talisay, Cambatong, Loyola and San Juan.

All these places, including the islands of Macahurom, Tipdos and Tidman, are considered breeding sites. There is an extensive volume of hatchlings in most of the island villages.

"In one fishing village, the turtles are collectively kept as pets. Families build ponds for them," Byrne said.

Most often, the turtles are caught while swimming or are trapped in fish corrals (a V-shaped floating fishing structure set up in open sea).

So what's in Hinatuan Bay that attracts turtles?

"It's the sandy white nesting grounds and extensive marine vegetation, mainly the seagrass (*lusay*)," said Byrne.

Aside from studying the *pawikan* and *dugong* during his free time, the Irish expert works with the Center for Empowerment and Research Development (CERD), a nongovernment group committed to assisting coastal villages in economic development and environmental protection.

His colleagues help him record and tag the turtles. So far, more than 20 turtles have been tagged and released back to the sea.

Byrne is tying up with the Pawikan Conservation Project (PCP), an agency attached to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources based in Manila.

The group came to Hinatuan late last year to conduct a study.

Byrne said "The study has pushed for a need to pursue an in-depth and institutionalized study of the *pawikan* here to ensure their survival. There are serious environmental factors that may cause the disappearance of all marine creatures of the bay if nothing is done this early."

He is pleased that Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez, whom he met recently, acknowledges the group's effort and has asked to be kept abreast of developments.

"With the secretary's backing and concern, I see hope that the issue of survival and study of the *pawikan* and *dugong* in the area will be addressed," Byrne said.

On April 22 and 23, the PCP and the CERD will conduct a training workshop on the conservation and management of marine turtles and *dugong* for DENR regional personnel, local government units, nongovernment and people's organizations, the academe and other sectors.

Earlier, Byrne started an education thrust by persuading the villagers to learn more about how to take care of the *pawikan*.

The people, particularly the children, responded positively, he reported. At one instance, the village took a day off to release a number of hatchlings and a few mature ones.

"The families who keep the *pawikan* volunteered to free them, and no less than the mayor, Dr. Alicia Momongan, joined the activity."

"Rowan has done a lot in terms of consciousness raising and we support him," Momongan said. "We never knew anything much about the marine bounty that we have here until he called our attention. His study and recommendation will no doubt benefit the local communities."

She could be speaking for all Filipinos.

Dying young

DUGONG MINDANAW

Romel M. Oribe

We want to know what the Mindanaoan youngblood, middle-aged blood or high blood are thinking about what's happening in Mindanao and the rest of the country. – ***Ed.***

ACTOR Rico Yan's death gives me a sickening sense of déjà vu. Two years ago, on April 19 on Samal Island, an Air Philippines Flight brought Tommy and his only sibling Maan, to their unpropitious, fiery end. He was 25; she was 22.

Dying is always a sad thing and dying young, even more so. The seemingly composed demeanor of Rico's family tells nothing of the extent of anguish they are going through; it was the same with Bobby and Emelyn, Tommy's parents.

When Bobby slips into a self-induced stupor in a poignant effort to shut out the pain that has permanently shattered his being, if not his soul, one gets a glimpse of a father's agony over an immeasurable loss. And when Emelyn calls on her two children in a cry that pierces the heart, one gets to plumb the depths of a mother's emotional hell.

I had the opportunity to join Bobby and Emelyn (they're both my townmates) when they had a novena in a country club in Greenhills, San Juan, for the 40th day rite after the death of Tommy and Maan, who were then still part of the mound of unidentified charred flesh. The collective grief was so palpable one could write epitaphs on it.

Mounted on easels were two large collages of Maan's photographs and memories made by her friends and batchmates in Ateneo. A cousin also wanted to do a collage of Tommy but unfortunately, like most shutterbugs, Tommy had few pictures of himself. Which was just as well because it was in keeping with the way he wanted things to be.

Simplicity was Tommy's essence. He came from an affluent family, but ironically, he was one of the few simple and humble guys I know. If there was one thing he didn't like, it was being conspicuous. And the way his death attracted media attention, Tommy, wherever he is now, must be in a perpetual state of discomfiture.

Bred and schooled in Manila, Tommy opted to work in his folks' home province of Surigao del Sur instead of joining the corporate jungle where his impressive credential as one of Ateneo's first graduate of Management Information Services and his father's significant connections were sure to carve him a comfortable niche.

During the time that Tommy was under me at the Department of Trade and Industry, he showed me the stuff that Ateneans are made of by being a conscientious, dependable worker.

Tommy brimmed with potentials but he seemed so timid to unleash them.

By the time he was pirated by our regional office in Butuan City, I only had hopes and wishes for him to break away from the shell that seemed to entrap his soul and deny him his moment. But a year later in October 1999, he resigned, saying he was finally giving in to his father's wish of following in his legal footsteps.

Now that I think about it, Tommy's persona had a mystique to it. And I could only conjecture what sadness lurked behind those innocent, impish smiles, what dreams would have come true for this unassuming young man who, the day before his ill-fated flight, told his girlfriend that he was tired of city life and all he ever wanted was to become a fisherman in Surigao del Sur and serve his nonagenarian grandmother.

It has been two years now since the incident, but Bobby and Emelyn are still hurting and trying to make a sense out of everything. I am sure that God, with His infinite goodness, will grant them the wisdom to understand and accept that, like Tommy and Maan, we shall all come to pass.

And that's why He gave us the gift of remembrance.

Losing a good friend like Tommy is such a waste. But then again, who cares about losing a good friend if you lose him to God?

***Romel M. Oribe**, 35, does a highly technical work at the Department of Trade and Industry in Tandag, Surigao del Sur.*

Explosives expert takes risks

By Christine Godinez-Ortega
Iligan City

DEPENDING on one's point of view, you either call them terrorists or freedom fighters. But just the same, deranged beings that they are, they always raise the "for a cause card" to justify their bombing activities.

Thank goodness then for a select few who put their lives on the line so that others may live.

One such person who has risked his life during such times is the homegrown explosives expert, Iligan City Police Senior Supt. Rogelio Coleta Nuñeza.

One of only 50 explosives experts in the country, he has not only been kept busy by his present job of keeping the peace in Iligan but he has been passing on his knowledge to others by training bomb technicians in the country to keep the public safe from terrorists.

Always a leader with several awards to his name, Nuñeza was commanding officer in various assignments including Basilan, the two Lanaos, Agusan del Sur and the Surigao del Norte provinces while he was with the Philippine Army (PA).

This was after he graduated from Iligan's St. Peter's College and training with the Reserved Officers Training Corps (ROTC).

And after an eventful career with the Presidential Security Group (PSG) during the terms of former Presidents Cory Aquino and Fidel Ramos, Nuñeza joined the Philippine National Police as Iligan's Police Director in 1999.

Rising from his office chair at the Iligan Police Headquarters, Nuñeza showed us a planted homemade bomb he had taken from Goldilocks Massage Clinic in Iligan about four years ago and demonstrated how, without any body protection, steely nerves worked to his advantage in retrieving and disarming it.

Two other bombs used by the Moro Islamic Liberation Front looking like trophies sit on his office shelf, their harmful ingredients already removed and which serve likewise as reminder of how lethal such contraptions can be to people.

Nuñeza pointed to the yellow detonating wire, the lump of C-4 explosive compound wrapped in a plastic pack and the timer, a small "Huida" clock inside a plastic diskette container, a signature of the MILF.

He counted a total of ten occasions where he has risked his life to retrieve planted bombs in various locations in Iligan City since he became its police chief.

Explosives experts in the country, he said, don't wear body protection the likes of which are worn by American bomb experts we see on TV because, Nuñeza said, the protective gear is designed for "big" people and will weigh down the wearer preventing him from retrieving bombs deftly and quickly.

What drives men like Nuñeza to take such risks? We doubt if the 50 percent pay on top of an expert's pay is enough incentive. So how can one be enticed to be an explosives expert? Perhaps, this could be chalked up to temperament and the "not shirking from the challenge" the job entails.

Nuñeza first trained in explosives when he was with the army. Later, as a member of the PSG under former President Aquino, Nuñeza was selected to take up basic and advanced explosives incident countermeasure courses at the Louisiana State Police Academy in Baton Rouge in 1989 and 1990.

Again we tried to probe why he has chosen a job that challenges the fates.

And a shrug said it all.

Such quiet acceptance and his matter-of-fact belief that his family, especially his parents, his wife Olga and children Mark, 22 and Karen, 6, are prepared for any eventuality is admirable from a person who has sworn to protect us from deranged individuals and groups who don't hesitate to snuff out innocent lives in the name of "freedom" or "independence" or even "religion."

NUÑEZA

ARMED only with nerves of steel, Police Senior Supt. Rogelio Nuñeza (right) studies a homemade bomb.

BIBLE TEXTERS Bishop Socrates Villegas, auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Manila, during the launch of "Catextism"—an SMS-based service that provides Smart cell phone users access to Gospel and Bible verses and also allows them to share their reflections with others. From left to right: Manuel Castillo, senior product development manager; Anastacio Martirez, head of personal communications and mobile services; Bishop Villegas; Napoleon Nazareno, SMART president and CEO; Paulyn Favila, product development officer; and Edgardo Bautista, head of business and product development.

God joins gentxt

From page A1

Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, in a pastoral statement, said the program is the Church's way of reaching out to the "gentext," especially the youth.

"We are now a 'text generation . . .' It is without doubt that text messaging is very popular in our country, especially among the youth. It has become a way of life. Almost everybody sends and receives text messages every day," Sin noted.

"And so the Church seeks to avail of this potential tool for evangelization and spiritual nourishment."

According to Sin, catextism will provide text users "access to spiritual readings and prayer exercises."

It will send out random passages from the Bible and also allow people to share their reflections to one another through a chat application.

"Thus, catextism enables people to reflect on, pray over and share the good news of Jesus Christ. It will serve as a reminder to us that God is at work at every moment and in every situation of our lives," Sin said.

Manila Auxiliary Bishop Socrates Villegas, who heads the project, said cell phone users who want to access the service must send the word "Amen" to access numbers 2371 (for Globe) and 777 (for Smart).

A menu appears from which text applications are available, including the popular prayer exercise "Sacred Space" copyrighted by the Dublin-based Jesuit Communication Center (JCC).

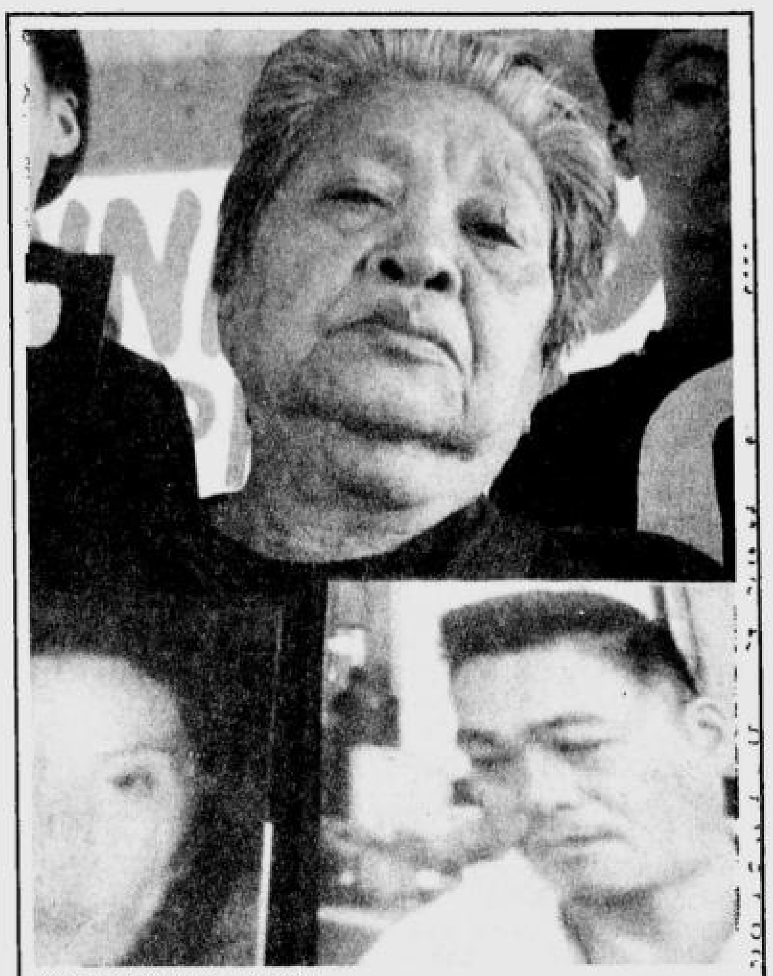
The project was realized through the help of the JCC and the two giant telecommunication companies, Globe Telecom and Smart Communications.

God in the hustle, bustle

"The very same instrument, the cell phone, which represents the hustle and bustle of many Catholics' lives now gives reminders and guides to prayers. Catextism's message is that 'God is with us in all situations,'" Villegas said.

For his part, Sin said the program was launched in response to Pope John Paul II's challenge to the Church "to make room for Christ especially in mass communications."

He noted that the Pope recently called for a "pastoral plan which will enable the proclamation of Christ to reach the people, mold communities and have a deep and incisive influence in bringing Gospel values to . . . society and culture."



MILITARY BLAMED
Loss of parents, children: Aling Josefina Albarillo blames the military for the killing of her son and daughter-in-law, who were members of Bayan Muna. In a press conference, the seven children of the victims demand justice and support from the government. JOAN BONDOC

Joma: Attack US troops

From page A1

the Balikatan exercises from the start because these were aimed at enhancing the capability of Filipino soldiers

"If our capability is enhanced, that's a threat to them," he said.

Senga also said that despite Sison's order, the military would press ahead with its counter-insurgency campaign.

He said there was no need to alert Filipino and American troops taking part in the exercises.

"We are always vigilant," he declared. "The security of our troops and camps is always our top priority."

More coming

Some 660 US troops are already in Mindanao, training and assisting local forces in the hunt against the Abu Sayyaf.

The bandit group, which has alleged links to the al-Qaida network of Osama bin Laden, supposed mastermind of the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States, is holding hostage an American missionary couple and a Filipino nurse.

The mission of the US troops officially ends in July, but President Macapagal-Arroyo had said that she favored future training exercises involving more US forces in Mindanao.

About 2,665 US troops are due to arrive later this month in Luzon for separate annual joint exercises with Filipino counterparts.

The Philippines and the United States have been stepping up military cooperation in recent months after the President gave wholehearted support to the US-led war on terror.

There have been no verified cases of communist attacks on US forces training here since then. But in late January, a US MC-130 Special Forces plane taking part in joint exercises in the north was hit by two bullets while flying low over a mountainous area where communist insurgents are known to be active.

Last year the President suspended talks with the communists after the NPA assassinated two members of the House of Representatives.

The communists have gained ground in this country since the 1997 Asian crisis. The military estimates the NPA strength at 11,930 guerrillas with 7,156 firearms as of the end of 2001. ***Reports from AFP; TJ Burgonio in Manila***

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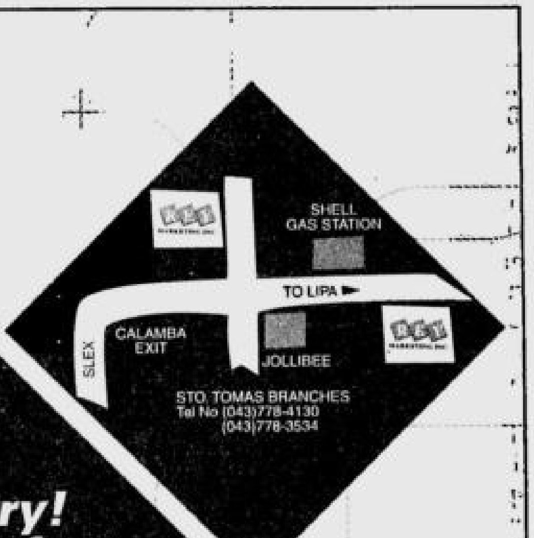

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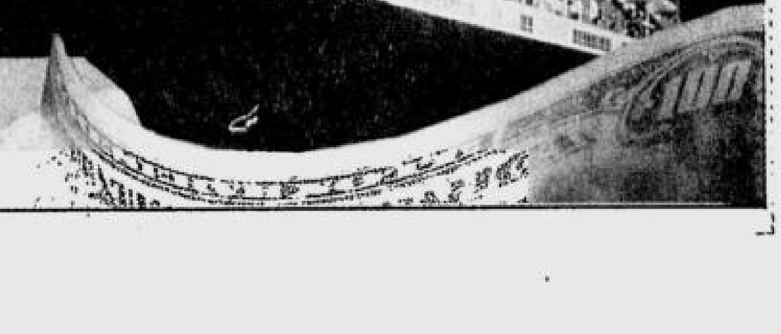

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Israeli PM defies US

WASHINGTON—Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon delivered another implicit rebuke to the United States Friday, pledging not to allow any country to force decisions on Israel that might affect its security.

"Nobody will force upon us any decisions or resolutions that might affect our future," a defiant Sharon told CBS News in an interview. "This nation is strong. Much stronger than our enemies believe."

The statement came after a day of talks in Jerusalem between Sharon and visiting US Secretary of State Colin Powell, in which the US envoy sought assurances of a quick Israeli pullout from Palestinian territories.

Sharon characterized the talks as "friendly, but bluntly said he did not believe any agreement with the Palestinians was possible as long as Yasser Arafat remained their leader.

"First, I don't believe that one can reach peace with Mr. Arafat," Sharon said.

He said the Palestinian leader was offered unprecedented concessions by former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak during their 2000 meeting at Camp David but turned them all down and instead "adopted a strategy of terror."

"With him we cannot reach any settlement," Sharon said. "Therefore I believe that it should have been an effort to find somebody else with whom it would be possible."

Sharon made clear that foreign governments that continued to recognize Arafat as the Palestinian leader were only delaying finding a solution to violence in the Middle East.

He also lashed out at foreign governments that, in his words, were concerned about Arafat's situation but worried little about Israeli victims of suicide attacks. *AFP*

WRECKAGE of the refugee camp in Jenin, the site of the bloodiest battle of the Israeli offensive against Palestinians who claim 250 were massacred in the camp.

AFP

60% of Americans want aid to Israel cut

WASHINGTON—Sixty percent of Americans believe the United States should cut off or reduce aid to Israel if it refuses to heed US calls for withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Palestinian territories, according to a new opinion poll made public late Friday.

The Time/CNN survey also found that a large majority of Americans—75 percent—think US Secretary of State Colin Powell, now visiting Israel, should meet with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat during his trip.

But relatively few have high expectations of Powell's mission undertaken in hopes of bringing about a ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinians.

Only 21 percent of respondents said they believed a peace agreement or major progress toward a peace agreement would be made during the trip, the poll showed.

Neither Arafat nor Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon emerged as individuals Americans would particularly trust, according to the poll.

Only 10 percent said they believed Arafat is someone who can be trusted. Fifty-five percent thought he was a warmonger, 62 percent believed he was a terrorist, and 59 percent called him an enemy of the United States.

As for Sharon, only 35 percent found him trustworthy, 35 percent said he was a warmonger, 20 percent said he was a terrorist, and 25 percent called him an enemy of the United States.

The TIME/CNN survey was conducted by telephone among 1,003 adult Americans on April 10-11. The margin of error was plus or minus 3.1 percent. *AFP*

UN chief calls for int'l peacekeeping force

From page A1

Nasser Al-Kidwa, the Palestinian observer at the UN, said he hoped the Security Council would quickly accept the idea of an international force.

But Israel expressed opposition to it. "Israel rejects the introduction of an international force," said Israel's UN spokesperson Ariel Milo. "Deploying such a force will not contribute to peace, and the peace has to be achieved through bilateral negotiations by both sides."

The proposed deployment would require a Security Council resolution and the approval of Israel and the Palestinians, Annan's spokesperson Fred Eckhard said.

Diplomats said there would be no decision on the matter until Tuesday.

Staying put

Sto. Tomas told the INQUIRER that despite the latest suicide bombing that killed six people, there was no need to transfer the 30,000-50,000 Filipino workers in Israel, or to bar more Filipinos from working there.

"Our Filipino workers are okay," she said. "As advised, they are staying indoors."

Sto. Tomas admitted that the Philippine government was awaiting "signals" from its embassy in Israel. But she said the Filipino workers there, mostly caregivers, had told labor officials that they preferred to stay and that they saw no immediate danger to themselves.

"They say there is no need for any movement because there is no systematic bombing," she said.

Sto. Tomas assured the public that no Filipino had died in the continuing violence that the UN's Annan described as "an affront to the conscience of mankind."

She said Filipino labor and foreign affairs officials, as well as the Israeli government, were helping the two injured Filipinos.

Bloody welcome

The suicide bomber, a young Palestinian woman, sent a bloody message of welcome to US Secretary of State Colin Powell on his first day of talks hoped to end the Middle East bloodshed.

The attack was a second blow to Powell's peace bid. Hours earlier, he failed to get Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to commit to a deadline for ending Israel's military offensive on Palestinians in the West Bank.

A militant offshoot of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement claimed responsibility for the bombing, which police said left more than 80 wounded, some seriously.

"This is the blood of a Jew spilling on me," one woman cried as she cradled a wounded teenaged girl in her arms. "They know when to strike us when it inflicts the most pain."

The explosion ripped a commuter bus to pieces outside the crowded market on the Jaffa Road, a frequent target of suicide bombers, where hundreds of people were doing last-minute shopping before the Jewish Sabbath began.

Police said the woman tried to board the bus after being stopped from entering the market by police officers.

The second suicide attack in Israel in three days seemed intended to mock Sharon's insistence that the two-week army onslaught against the Palestinians was bringing attacks on Israelis to an end.

Mohammad Dahlan, an Arafat security boss in the Gaza Strip, said it was "the result of the resentment Ariel Sharon caused with the massacres and crimes perpetrated against the Palestinian people."

Waiting

Powell is waiting for a statement from Arafat denouncing the suicide bombing before deciding whether to see the Palestinian leader.

They were supposed to meet Saturday in Ramallah, where Israeli forces have Arafat cooped up in his headquarters. But Powell called off the meeting, saying through his spokesperson Richard Boucher that "it is important that Chairman Arafat not miss this opportunity to take a clear stand against the violence that harms the Palestinian cause."

The meeting might be rescheduled for Sunday, a senior US official said. But Boucher said Powell expected a "clear denunciation of terrorism" and of the new bombing in the meantime.

Arafat has been reluctant to make such a statement, with support for suicide attacks running high among Palestinians in light of Israel's military offensive in the West Bank.

The White House, in response to the attack, also demanded anew that Arafat denounce terrorism. It raised doubts as to when—or whether—Powell would meet the Palestinian leader if he did not make such a statement.

In place of the aborted session with Arafat, Powell was to meet with Christian religious leaders and with UN and Red Cross officials on the damage to the West Bank stemming from Israel's two-week siege.

"There has been too much suffering on both sides," Boucher said.

In a statement read to reporters at Safed in northern Israel, Powell suggested that accelerated diplomacy was the right response.

There is a need "for all of us, everyone, the international community, to exert every effort we can to find a solution," he said.

The West Bank onslaught has left Israel isolated diplomatically and enraged much of the Arab world, where leaders have warned the United States that its interests were at stake if the Israelis did not stand down.

Egypt, along with Jordan, the only Arab nation to have ties with Israel, announced that it was canceling flights to the Jewish state. Jordan's King Abdullah II has warned its relationship was in danger. ***Reports from AP, AFP, and Armand N. Nocum in Manila***

Brocka film makes list of world's best

From page A1

and committed as Brocka was.

What was it about "Maynila" that made it stand out in the estimation of international film critics? Its citation in "Film: The Critics' Choice" provides an illuminating context (excerpts):

"The title metaphor, evoking flames and moths, summarizes the theme of Brocka's classic. But it is equally emblematic of 'Third World' cinema as a whole, since it represents the issue at the heart of almost all engaged filmmaking from developing countries: people raised in rural communities who migrate to big cities (the argument runs) will inevitably be confounded by the absence of the values with which they were raised, will find themselves preyed upon, and will likely meet sad fates.

"The ways in which this issue is articulated by individual filmmakers vary from case to case, depending on local economic conditions and the context in which the film is made and shown. Brocka, working for a new independent company but within a studio system modeled on Hollywood, articulates it was melodrama—but with a sharp, social-realist edge."

What makes the movie so outstanding? "The film brings Edgardo Reyes' book's serious sociological agenda into the pop-culture arena of cinema. (But) the film trumps the book in two ways: first, by making the city itself the visual key to the drama (shot on location in Manila's worst slums, it achieves a level of visceral immediacy not possible on the printed page); second, by applying a *mise-en-scene* learned from American *films noir* of the 1940s and 1950s to a contemporary social-realist melodrama, it gives the plot a new dynamic by allowing it to exceed the conventions of genre."

Why 'Maynila?'

But there's more to this than meets even the critic's eye. Some other Filipino movies have also been outstanding, but why was "Maynila" chosen over them? One reason is implied in the excerpts we've quoted: the film is intriguing and powerful, particularly in the estimation of European critics because of its "Third World-First World" resonances and even contrapuntal significance.

It uses Hollywood conventions, but imbues them with a distinctly Filipino humanism and sociological potency. Thus, "Maynila" is seen as "the first time that Brocka found a viable balance between his political anger and his commitment to mass-market filmmaking." There goes that perceived juxtaposition of then and now, of East and West, of lyrical and engaged again.

More: the book's sections in which "Maynila" is cited, "International Cinema," is credited to Tony Rayns, a well-regarded, veteran critic who has championed "Third World" films for a long time now. The 15 films selected for the "International Cinema" section reflect this insightful advocacy. Rayns explains:

"My selection of titles from Asia, Africa and Latin America has an unapologetic bias towards East Asia. In part this is because it seems about time to make some amends for past neglect.

"Asia has several of the oldest continuously operating film industries in the world, and most film-producing countries in the region could boast of outstanding achievement well before the years of the Pacific War.

"And yet the western world became aware of Japanese and Indian cinema only in the 1950s, of Chinese and Filipino cinema in the 1980s and it is only now beginning to catch up with what is happening in Korean cinema.

"The other reason for the bias is purely subjective: I think these films are more interesting and achieved than rival contenders for the 15 slots. In fact, most of them strike me as being among cinema's finest achievements."

Critic's credentials

Rayns' brief bio describes him as one of the world's leading experts on Eastern cinema. He is consultant curator to a number of international film festivals. His published works include a book of critical essays, "Fassbinder" and "Wong Kar-Wai on Wong Kar-Wai."

The critic's links with Asian cinema are clear, but what about his exposure to and advocacy for Filipino films? The book "Lino Brocka—The Artist and His Times" edited by Mario A. Hernando affirms this specific association with these notes:

In 1980, Rayns watched "Jaguar" (also by Brocka) at the Cannes filmfest, and got to meet the members of the Philippine delegation—Brocka and the film's stars, Phillip Salvador and Amy Austria.

And in 1982, he organized a retrospective of Filipino films at London's National Film Theater. The retrospective featured some of the best works of Filipino film masters like Gerardo de Leon, Lamberto Avellana, Eddie Romero, Mario O'Hara, Ishmael Bernal, Mike de Leon and Brocka, who was represented by seminal works that included—"Maynila, Sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag."

The film must have made a big impact on Rayns, for him to single it out in "Film: The Critics' Choice" some 30 years after his first exposure to it.

And, how wonderful for us that it remained a potent viewing experience for him, because it's put us on the international film map once again, by virtue of its being hailed as a masterpiece of world cinema in the book edited by Geoff Andrew.

The other sections of the book focus on different periods, regions and countries involved in film production, and masterpieces are cited for each section.

Less traditional

What makes this listing of great films different from others is its less traditional and more populist point of view. True, it cites some of the old museum pieces regularly trotted out in film appreciation classes ("the Birth of A Nation," "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," "The Battleship Potemkin," "Citizen Kane," "Last Year at Marienbad"), but it also dares to honor experimental movies by Gus Van Sant, Jim Jarmush, David Cronenberg, Steve James and Todd Haynes.

Expectedly, its contemporary European section is even more audacious, giving the highest accolades to the works of Andrei Tarkousky, Raul Ruiz, Victor Erice, Aki Kaurismaki, Claire Denis and Julio Medem, filmmakers who are generally unknown in these Hollywood-monopolized parts.

Thus, reading "Film: The Crtitics' Choice" is informative, illuminating, liberating and confounding, because we get to know about all these great films—most of which we'll never get to see.

We hope that a savvy videoshop owner uses the film titles cited in this book as his guide for compiling a library of video or DVD copies of these rarely seen film masterpieces. The steadily growing number of film buffs in this country would avidly patronize such a service, to fill in the huge gaps in their appreciation of and exposure to the non-Hollywood aspects of world cinema.

As for our film people, Brocka and "Maynila, Sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag" continue to show the way toward genuinely world-class excellence for Filipino movies.

When comes such another masterful pairing of film and filmmaker?

BEMBOL ROCO, stars as a fisherman who goes to Manila to look for his fiancée, is confounded by the moral decay of the city.

Tiglao takes a break, a bride

From page A1

GOING a-courting, Tiglao visits Selirio at home and butters up to her mother, Rosalina, a former teacher at the UP-Los Baños.

INQUIRER.

"I won't be lonely in Kyoto. I have someone to share with the beauty of cherry blossoms and Mount Fuji," he said after the wedding rites.

Teased about turning poetic, he replied: "Of course when you're in love you become poetic."

"I do love him so much," Selirio told the INQUIRER.

Tiglao and Selirio started dating last December and became engaged last Feb.13 . He gave her a Tiffany-cut diamond ring.

"He courted me in a traditional manner. He's very reserved and shy. He visited me at home and courted my mother. He's so generous and kind," gushed Selirio. "Not a mean bone in his body."

Tiglao said he felt he was on "cloud nine."

Not really secret

Tiglao did not answer reporters' calls until 3:30 p.m.

When he did answer the INQUIRER's call, he laughed when told that his boss already disclosed his secret.

"It's not really a secret. I just don't want any publicity," he said.

He said they did not want to announce it because they were not young lovers anymore.

He said his marriage and honeymoon was "part of the reason" why he took a leave of absence for three months at least.

He admitted he took advantage of an offer to assume a visiting professor fellowship at the Kyoto University in Japan to get away for their honeymoon.

"That's part of the reason," he said, adding that Getsy will be his researcher.

A flurry of speculations about his real reason for going away followed the announcement of Tiglao's leave-taking last Thursday.

Some speculated he was exasperated with his work in Malacañang and with the constant meddling of Dante Ang, the President's personal publicist.

Wine Club

Both the ceremony ("Short and sweet," said Selirio) and the champagne lunch that followed were held at the members-only Wine Club inside the Mimosa complex where gourmet food is served and legendary wines are stocked in its cellar.

It was left to the club which was booked only a day before the wedding to prepare the wedding party with its chef, Chris Locher, creating the menu.

Newshounds in Pampanga ***(See story on this page)*** who were on to the Tiglao wedding searched from the Montevista resort where it was confirmed that Tiglao had reserved a villa yesterday to the Holiday Inn, ironically a neighbor of the Wine Club. But the media failed to check out the Wine Club.

Mutual attraction

Asked what drew them to one another, Tiglao said that he and Selirio believe in the same values like not being attached to material things. They also share a passion for journalism. They started their careers in the '80s in the same paper, the now defunct Business Day. Both worked at the old Manila Chronicle.

From 1993 to 2000, Tiglao was the Manila bureau chief of the Far Eastern Economic Review. In the 1990s Selirio worked for the Philadelphia Inquirer. She was writing a column for Metro Magazine and was desk editor at the AFX, the business bureau of Agence France Presse for Asia, when Tiglao, who was then editor in chief of the INQUIRER website, Inq7, invited her to join him to become his managing editor. She took over Tiglao's post when Ms Macapagal appointed him presidential spokesperson a year ago. ***With reports from Dona Pazzibugan and Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk.***

Looking for Bobi and Getsy

By Tonette Orejas,
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—Had Press Secretary Rigoberto Tiglao remarried and chosen Clark for that special occasion?

There were no immediate answers, as there seemed to have been orders to keep the occasion largely private and secret.

Sales and marketing personnel of the Montevista Resort in Clark evaded questions on the matter.

Resort officials confirmed that Tiglao reserved a two-story villa last week. The reservation was good for a week, starting yesterday, they said.

"(But) somebody called to cancel the reservation on Saturday," they said, without identifying the person who called on Tiglao's behalf.

But an employee, who claimed to have seen Tiglao with a small group at the Montevista villa, said the secretary hurriedly left at 3 p.m. after getting a call from Malacañang.

Another employee, also with the reservation section, said they were "not allowed to disclose Tiglao's purpose of visit" at Montevista.

A co-employee quickly said Tiglao did not actually check in or use the golf club. "No occasion happened there," the employee said before hastily leaving.

A Clark Development Corp. official said he had helped arrange Tiglao's reservation at Montevista for a "special event." The official declined to talk further.

No wedding event took place at Clark's Holiday Inn yesterday, the hotel's sales and marketing department confirmed.

Fr. Cris Cadiang, Clark chaplain, said he did not officiate at any wedding ceremony at Clark yesterday. Two Catholic churches inside Clark were not used for Tiglao's supposed wedding, it was learned.

No official of CDC or Pampanga, like Mayor Marino Morales of Mabalacat, Tiglao's hometown, was invited to the wedding, if indeed one took place, reports gathered by the INQUIRER showed.

Oscar Marcelo, regional director of the Philippine Information Agency, said the PIA had no information on the supposed wedding at Clark.

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The Department of Health
Cordially invites you to the

2nd Environmental and Occupational Health Convention

SENTRONG SIGLA
Health ang una!

Theme: "Promoting Healthy Environment and Healthy Workers: A Challenge and Opportunity"

17 – 18 April 2002
Teatro ng GSIS, Financial Center
Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MESSAGE

My warmest felicitations to the participants of the 2nd National Convention on Environmental and Occupational Health.

The theme of this year's convention, *"Promoting Healthy Environment and Workers – Challenges and Opportunities"*, highlights the multidimensional character of this particular undertaking which necessarily entails a multisectoral approach towards resolving many of the issues that confront almost 32 million Filipinos in various workplaces in the country.

The theme likewise emphasizes the importance of building partnerships and in improving coordination among different government agencies and civil society groups. The protection of the environment and our people's health is both a right and a responsibility that all sectors should work together for.

The Department of Health hopes that this convention will serve as a viable avenue that will foster the exchange of valuable information needed to promote environmental and occupational health while ensuring that all stakeholders work closely in a climate of complementation and synergy.

Strengthening community involvement and empowering individuals to take responsibility in collectively addressing environment- and work-related issues that affect their daily lives are another two strategies that we can work on towards attaining our goals.

Lastly, protecting the environment and promoting the health of workers nationwide is certainly worthwhile as this will translate to an improved state of health, thereby increasing over-all work productivity which we hope will ultimately lead to sustainable socioeconomic development of the country.

I bid the organizers and participants my best wishes and assure you of my full support to this noteworthy cause.

Mabuhay tayong lahat!

MANUEL M. DAYRIT, MD, MSc
Secretary of Health

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SENATE
PASAY CITY

Hon. Loren Legarda Leviste
SENATOR

MESSAGE

I wish to extend my warmest greetings to the Department of Health and the Employees Compensation Commission of the Department of Labor for holding the 2nd Environmental and Occupational Health Convention with the theme, "Promoting Healthy Environment and Workers: A Challenge and Opportunity."

It is indeed heartwarming that two of the country's agencies geared toward the welfare of our people have again synchronized their efforts in bringing about a healthier environment for our workers.

It has been reported that a number of companies, especially those that require workers in factories and similar facilities, have not complied with the environmental and health standards prescribed by law to ensure the well being of their work force.

It is important that your two Departments have coordinated its efforts in ensuring that each and every Filipino worker will be guaranteed a safe work place that will be environmentally-friendly and conducive in enhancing productivity.

I trust that your Convention will be most productive, and continue to serve the interests of the Filipino worker.

Mabuhay!

LOREN LEGARDA LEVISTE

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Intramuros, Manila

MESSAGE

Let me convey my warm regards to our colleagues in the Department of Health (DOH) participating in the 2nd Environment and Occupational Health Convention. To be held in collaboration with our Employees Compensation Commission (ECC) at the GSIS Theater, Pasay City on April 17-18, 2002, this convention should lead to, among others, a stronger rapport between us.

A convention on environment and occupational health is very timely because of the dilemma that we face—the preservation of our environment against the demands and requirements of globalized trade competitions. While we must do everything in improving our productivity and competitiveness, we should also seek to improve the health of our workers and all others, on top of preserving our environment according to nature's plans and ways.

Clearly, we must succeed at both ends. The promotion of environment, safety and health are now "must" components in our workplaces which must be both safe and healthy as well as more productive and competitive. Your theme, "Promoting Healthy Environment and Healthy Workers: A Challenge & Opportunity," succinctly expresses the need to balance progress and prosperity with safety, health and environment. That is a balance that we must all strive to attain.

I congratulate the DOH for this Convention and I trust that its outputs will give rise not only to better worksites but to healthier, stronger and happier Filipino workers who will capture global markets while our nation becomes a haven environment-wise. May DOH, our partner in this undertaking, continue striving vigorously to make our nation greater through its pro-people and pro-environment programs and thrusts.

Mabuhay!

Patricia A. Sto. Tomas
PATRICIA A. STO. TOMAS
Secretary

PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

DAY 1
April 17, 2002

Opening Ceremonies

Registration	- Secretariat
Philippine National Anthem and Doxology	- DOH Choir
Welcome	Usec. Antonio S. Lopez, DOH
Inspirational Message	- Sec. Patricia A. Sto. Tomas, DOLE - Sec. Manuel M. Dayrit, DOH
Keynote Address	- Sen. Loren Legarda-Leviste
Master of Ceremonies	- Dr. Desiree M. Narvaez, DOH

SESSION A: SITUATIONER

Global and Regional Situation of Environmental and Occupational Health
Role of the DOH in the Implementation of EOH in the Philippines
Employee's Compensation Commission Benefits and Packages
Current Trend on Risk Assessment, Management & Communication on Environmental Health

SESSION B: OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS

Addressing the Leading Occupational Hazard: Ergonomics
Towards Banning Persistent Organic Pollutants
Management of Industrial Chemical Accidents
Facing the Challenge: Health Care Waste Management

DAY 2
April 18, 2002

SESSION B: HEALTHY WORKPLACE

Healthy Setting: Healthy Workplace
Role of Sanitary Inspector in Industry

SESSION D: HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Compendium of Anti-Smoking Efforts in the Workplace
Promoting Physical Activity/Stress Management/Healthy Diets in the Workplace
Prevention and Control of Substance Abuse in the Workplace

SESSION E: SPECIAL WORKING POPULATION

Child Labor
Health Concern of Informal Sector
Women's Health in Industry
Summary of Action Points
Closing Ceremonies

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Chairperson	- Dr. Desiree M. Narvaez
Vice-Chair	- Engr. Elmer G. Benedictos
Scientific Programme	- Dr. Jacqueline L. Abola
Invitations for Participants	- Dr. Aleli P. Sudiacal
Speakers	- Dr. Ma. Cristina R. Galang
Souvenir Program	- Engr. Ana Trinidad F. Rivera
Registration	- Engr. Ma. Sonabel S. Anarna
Convention Kit	- Engr. Elmer G. Benedictos
Plaques and Awards	Engr. Joselito M. Riego de Dios
Exhibits	- Engr. Danilo L. de Guzman
Physical Arrangement	- Engr. Gerardo S. Mogol
Audio and Video	- Engr. Rene N. Timbang
Publicity	- Engr. Luis F. Cruz
Documentation	- Dr. Robert A. Sadang Mr. Jason S. Baineg
Food	- Ms. Trinidad L. Damasco Ms. Mae Beth V. Abuso
Advisers	- Undersecretary Antonio S. Lopez Dr. Myrna C. Cabotaje Dr. Loreto B. Roquero, Jr.

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visit us at www.doh.gov.ph

Procter&Gamble SUPPORTS THE 2ND ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CONVENTION

Fistorama makes dramatic return today at Cantada arena

COJUANGCO

FISTORAMA, the nation's No. 1 TV boxing show from the Sixties to the Seventies, makes a dramatic return today with eight bouts on tap at the Cantada Sports Center in Taguig, Metro Manila.

Curtain time is 6 p.m., with Games and Amusements Board chairman Eduardo Villanueva set to join celebrities at ringside like international promoter Jun Sarreal, former world champions like Erbito Salavarria and Pedro Adigue, Taguig mayor Ferdie Tinga and Rudy Salud, the former PBA commissioner who manages No. 1 world flyweight contender Gerry Peñalosa.

Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco, a staunch boxing supporter, has been invited special guest in the 64-round card that features two world-rated boxers and two promising fighters ranked in the Orient-Pacific Boxing Federation.

No less than the legendary boxing and golf writer Taby Tabaniag will call the shots as a TV panelist together with Ed Picson and Al S. Mendoza in the event Tabaniag founded in 1960.

The weekly slugfest is now backed principally by San Miguel Corporation. It will be aired on RPN 9 starting April 21 at 12 noon.

Promoter Edgardo "Boy" Cantada said he has decided to allow the public free admission "as a tribute to my late brother, Joe, whose real love next to sportscasting was boxing."

Gates open at 5 p.m. for the 1,300-seat Cantada Sports Center, a state-of-the-art arena complete with the amenities of modern-day viewing of live boxing.

SINGH: "I don't really like playing in wet weather. I was really glad to see the rain quit." AP

Davao downs 'Gapo'

GAMES TODAY (CDCSC Gym, San Fabian)
1 p.m.—Cebuana Lhuillier vs CDO
3 p.m.—Pampanga vs Osaka Pangasinan

BACOLOD CITY—What they failed to do in regulation play, the Professional Davao Eagles achieved in overtime yesterday as they subdued the Olongapo Volunteers, 97-91, in the MBA First Conference at the St. La Salle Gym here.

Romulo Marata and Genesis Sasuman bannered the Eagles in the extra period, scoring five points each as they handed the Volunteers their first defeat after two victories.

The Eagles, on the other hand, climbed to 2-2 as they erased the memory of a 95-80 defeat dealt them by the RCPI Negros Slashers on Thursday at the same venue. For his all-round effort, Marata was named best player of the game after finishing with 30 points, seven rebounds and six assists for coach Bong Go's wards.

Actually, the Eagles had a chance to end the game outright, but 2001 main discovery Peter June Simon bungled his two freethrows with 1.3 ticks left. The Volunteers of coach Junel Baculi forged overtime at 83 on a triple by Henry Fernandez with eight seconds to go.

RCPI Negros banked on Dino Aldeguer and John Ferriols to down LBC Batangas, 76-70, in the second game. RCPI rose to 3-1 while LBC fell to 0-2. Today's games at the CDSC Gym in San Fabian, Pangasinan, pit Cebuana Lhuillier against Cagayan de Oro at 1 p.m. followed by the Pampanga-Osaka Pangasinan tussle at 3:30 p.m.

Roy Luarca

NBA COMPLETE RESULTS

Toronto 112, Atlanta 73; Philadelphia 100, Washington 91; Boston 107, New York 92; Miami 99, Orlando 94; Charlotte 112, Cleveland 100; Indiana 112, Milwaukee 107, OT; San Antonio 96, Detroit 86; Portland 80, Houston 79; Denver 97, Golden State 89; Sacramento 125, L.A. Clippers 106. *AP*

STORM DELAYS US MASTERS

Singh sings in the rain with blistering 65

AUGUSTA, Georgia— Vijay Singh shot the round of his life around Augusta National to jump to the top of the leaderboard in a rain-interrupted second round of the Masters here on Friday.

The 39-year-old Fijian shot a blistering seven-under 65, two shot better than his previous best round here, which he shot two years ago on his way to a famous victory.

His 65 put him nine-under for the championship and four shots clear of his nearest clubhouse rival.

But stranded out in the course after an impending evening storm forced organizers to cancel play and carry the round over to Saturday morning (Sunday in Manila) were Retief Goosen at six-under with seven holes left to play and Tiger Woods, three-under with eight to play.

Singh made the most of the heavy conditions, exaggerated by heavy morning rain than left parts of the course a near bog. He had begun the day at two-under and three shots off the lead.

"I don't really like playing in wet weather," admitted Singh. "I'm not a very good wet weather player, when it's raining and I was really glad to see the rain quit."

He managed to pick up one shot in the outward nine but began making the most of his huge length on a spectacular march home. A birdie at the dangerous par-three 12th was followed by another on 13 and then a courageous eagle on the 500-yard par-five 15th put him firmly atop the leaderboard.

As he walked off the 18th, Singh was eight-under for the championship and six-under for the day — a stunning score on Augusta National Golf Club, stretched by nearly 300 yards over last year to try and contain the scores. ***AFP***

Partial Second Round		Brad Faxon	71-75-146
Vijay Singh	70-65-135	Tom Watson	71-76-147
Angel Cabrera	68-71-139	Lee Westwood	75-72-147
Padraig Harrington	69-70-139	David Toms	73-74-147
		John Daly	74-73-147
Sergio Garcia	68-71-139	Shigeki Maruyama	75-72-147
Thomas Bjorn	74-67-141	Paul Azinger	75-73-148
Phil Mickelson	69-72-141	Larry Mize	74-74-148
Miguel A. Jimenez	70-71-141	6. Miguel A. Jimenez	-3 F
Davis Love III	67-75-142	6. Phil Mickelson	-3 F
Robert Allenby	73-70-143	6. Thomas Bjorn	-3 F
Rocco Mediate	75-68-143	6. Chris Dimarco	-3 13
Mike Weir	72-71-143	6. Jose Maria Olazabal	-3 10
Darren Clarke	70-74-144	6. Tiger Woods	-3 10
Stewart Cink	74-70-144	12. Davis Love III	-2 F
Billy Mayfair	74-71-145	12. Nick Faldo	-2 16
Bob Estes	73-72-145	12. Ernie Els	-2 12
Bernhard Langer	73-72-145	15. Mike Weir	-1 F
Justin Leonard	70-75-145	15. Robert Allenby	-1 F
Craig Stadler	73-72-145	15. Rocco Mediate	-1 F
Tom Pernice, Jr.	74-72-146	15. Adam Scott	-1 17
Steve Lowery	75-71-146	15. Scott Verplank	-1 14
Fred Couples	73-73-146	20. Darren Clarke	E F
Nick Price	70-76-146	20. Stewart Cink	E F

Letran sponsors golfest

THE LETRAN Alumni Association Inc. will launch a Junior Golf Program aimed at honing the skills of aspiring golfers with a tournament on April 24 at Villamor. Tee off is at 6:30 a.m.

The event, dubbed The 1st Letran Alumni Golf Fellowship Tournament, aims to raise funds to develop future champions. The program will entertain aspirants from beyond the walls of the Colegio.

Ed Picson of the organizing committee said Letran alumni, students, faculty, and non-alumni have started responding to the call.

Sponsors include PAL, Red Bull, Pilipinas Shell, Cantada Sports Center, Recio Encases Architects, Video Gear Inc., Powerchek Inc; Rep. Ted Failon and Paco Mendoza. For details, call 527-1775 or 527-1777 or Ramon Baby Tabuena at 0918-320-0099.

Manila Amateur draws big names

WITH only a week to go before the holding of the Manila Amateur at Wack Wack West, most of the big names in the championship and seniors divisions have already registered.

The young guns like Angelo Que, Marlon Dizon and Juvic Pagunsan are in for a tough challenge against veterans like Abe Rosal, Rolly Viray, Emilio Tuason, Jingy Tuason in the event set April 23-26.

Two former seniors champions, Caloy Coscolluela and Alex Montelibano, are out to dispute the top senior plum.

During the awards ceremony on April 26, two Northwest Airlines business class tickets to United States and items from Bridgestone/Tourstage, Cleveland, Hogan, Adams, Never Compromise, Ogio, Kasco and Greg Norman Apparel and gift certificates from Discovery Suites and Le Soleil in Boracay will be raffled off.

Tagaytay Midlands to host Father Go golf

SOME P2 million worth of prizes will be up for grabs in the First Father Johnny Go Golf Cup to be staged by the Xavier School Alumni Association on May 31 at the Tagaytay Midlands in Tagaytay City.

Held in honor of the school director, the 18-hole charity event will raise funds for Xavier school's grant-in-aid, according to Vice President for Fellowship Samson Lim.

Since a maximum of only 120 alumni golfers will be allowed to vie for top individual and team honors, entries will be entertained on a first-come, first-served basis, Lim said. Call either Imee or Sahlee at 727-33-29.

Lim, who is also chair of the organizing committee, said a car each from Ford Balintawak and Nissan Philippines will be at stake as hole-in-one prizes. Other initial sponsors are Belle Corp., Absolute Distilled Water, Batch '83, Xavier Class of '67 and Pair Cargo.

Trophies will be given to the top three placers in the team event (4-man teams), and the class A, B, C and guest categories. Special trophies will also be given to the low-gross and low net players.

The System 36 scoring will be used in the individual categories, while all gross scores will count in the team competition. The shot gun tee-off will be at 8 a.m.

Milo Checkmate summer classes April 17-24

ENROLMENT for the Milo Checkmate special summer classes in Metro Manila, set to start on April 17-24, is now in full swing at St. James College Quezon City in T. Sora corner Mindanao Avenue; 2/F of Centermall inside the Greenhills Shopping Center (GSC) in San Juan; and Badminton Bldg. inside Rizal Memorial Sports Complex (RMSC), Vito Cruz, Manila.

The clinic, the second of four summer offerings, is open to aspiring chess players who are 5-18 years old. Courses offered are preparatory, beginners, intermediate and advance.

Classes will be held daily except Sunday at the given schedules: St. James- 7-11 a.m. at the Multi-purpose hall; RMSC - 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and GSC - 2:30-6:30 p.m.

For more details, call Metropolitan Chess Club at 826-8560 and 0919-852-1069.

Mariano MYG chess champ

NELSON Mariano III ruled the 12-under chess competitions yesterday in the first Manila Youth Games at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex. The kid brother of international master and former Asian junior champion Nelson Mariano II, women's international master Cristine Rose and collegiate standout Carmina Joy, Mariano III emerged with a total of 6.5 points out of a possible seven. He was held to a draw by Amram Rivas of F. Guerrero Elementary in the final round. Mariano III, representing University of the East, wound up with the gold on a superior tiebreak score.

Marathon's Exalta records 7,280 km

BUTUAN—The Nissan Exalta GS Superio, which had a taste of hell in its initial foray on Mindanao soil, bulked up its Caltex Havoline odometer when it made a non-stop run from Surigao to Davao and back on Friday in the extraordinary fourth Pan Philippine Marathon.

When the four-man crew spearheaded by Juvy Catajoy made its way back to Surigao for a ferry crossing back to the Visayas en route to Manila, the odometer showed 7,280 kilometers.

Upon their arrival in Cagayan de Oro, the crew was met by Nissan CDO general manager Rey Orimaco, who also signed their proof of passage at 5,778 kilometer.

When they made a stopover in Davao, famous for its succulent durian fruit and seafoods, they were welcomed by Nissan Davao Unicar Inc. GM Jose Cua. A brief question-and-answer portion highlighted the team's Chinese lauriat lunch hosted by Cua.

It's been one week since the silver sedan was flagged off at the Eastwood City in Quezon City.

The crew survived heavy rains in the trek from Cagayan de Oro to Butuan, but with the Exalta sporting top-of-the-line [illegible] Ventura tires from Goodyear, Catajoy and [illegible] hardly felt they were driving under perilous conditions.

Pinoy loses

MIAMI–Colombia's Beibis Mendoza scored a unanimous decision over Manny Melchor of the Philippines in a fight between former world champions. Mendoza, who previously held the WBA junior flyweight crown, was the busier fighter during the eight-round flyweight bout. *AP*

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1992, National Capital Region's De La Salle Zobel beat Iligan's La Salle Academy, 1-0, to rule the Coke Go-for-Goal national football championships in Bacolod City.

Hotdogs gain Top 4 berth

GAMES TODAY (Araneta Coliseum)
4 p.m.—Talk N Text vs Coca-Cola
6 p.m.—Ginebra vs Red Bull

REY Evangelista and Alvin Patrimonio played the role of imports at crunchtime as Purefoods zapped Sta. Lucia Realty, 87-76, to assure itself of a twice-to-beat advantage going into the quarterfinals of the PBA Samsung Governors Cup.

Evangelista sizzled from the outside, hitting 13 of his 14 points in the final 20 minutes to unburden Derrick Brown and Leonard White of their scoring chores en route to the Hotdogs eighth victory after 10 games.

Patrimonio, on the other hand, applied the finishing touches as he scored seven of his 16-point output in the last quarter that completed the Hotdogs' reversal and snapped the three-game winning streak of the Realtors.

The Realtors, who suddenly blew cold in the latter half after speeding to a 49-38 lead after two quarters, threw an opportunity for a twice-to-beat edge at 5-5.

Alaska made it to the quarterfinals after clobbering Shell, 83-55, in the second game. The Aces tied the Realtors at 5-5 while the Turbochargers fell to 1-9.

Francis S. Serrano on Levi Celerio

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

I GIVE way today to Francis S. Serrano, the well-loved lawyer from Libon, Albay, whose Phoenix at Kamuning, Q.C. houses the most extensive collection of music this side of the globe.

"Thank you for mentioning me as one of the many friends of Levi Celerio (The Spectator, PDI, April 6). As a collector of recorded music, I had long memorized the lyrics of Levi's "Ang Pipit," a simple ditty to a small bird, before I met the guy many years ago. Our friendship was one for the books. Almost nightly for maybe a decade, we were together.

"Before we became friends, I learned that he was performing at a QC hotel in exchange for his board and lodging.

"At 80, Levi (he died at age 91 on April 2) seemingly enjoyed playing the violin nightly at said hotel. But I was appalled to learn that Levi's life was a knotted tapestry of difficulties.

"His being accorded the National Artist award had long been delayed. We worked months to get Malacanang to make him one. We thought our efforts would be in vain. Two years ago, Levi finally got it. The morning after he received the award, Levi came to my den showing the Certificate and thanked me profusely.

"But Levi admitted he valued the stipend that went with the award more than the recognition. He said the certificate 'cannot buy me anything.'

"He regularly visited Tia Dely (Dely Magpayo Reyes) of *dzRH*. Tia Dely assisted Levi endlessly. She is one among the few radio personalities who acknowledges Levi's work when it is aired.

"Varied were Levi's talent. He could recite verbatim nuggets of wisdom from the works of Khalil Gibran, Og Mandino, Mao Zedong and Karl Marx. But his favorite was, "God has provided everything for man's need but not for man's greed."

"Levi was a stand-up comic. His jokes were sincere because they came from experience. He idolized Joseng Batute and loved Balagtasan, which he knew by heart and could recite the lines of both protagonists.

"Most music buffs usually know the lyrics and melody of a song but not the lyricist, nor the composer. The American lyricist Alan Jay Lerner and composer Frederick Loewe ("My Fair Lady," "Gigi," etc.) were fortunate unlike Levi, whose musical genius did not bring him wealth. But Levi was a little luckier than Stephen Foster ("Beautiful Dreamer," "Oh Sussanah," "Bury Me Not on Lone Prairie"), a noted composer-lyricist who died with only a quarter in his pocket. Foster composed "My Old Kentucky Home."

"Levi, if he was in the mood, would boast of the 'lots of money' given him by Marcos after the late strongman heard Levi's composition of "New Society (Bagong Lipunan) Song." Levi's fee: P7,000.

"On those visits he made to my den at night, Levi wrote me lyrics on popular melodies. Always, there was the little fee I could afford. Sometimes, we would grieve over the permanent loss of our mutual friend. I am consoled that his works would be a permanent part of Philippine music. Apropos are his words *'pag pumanaw ang buhay ko, may isang pipit na iiyak.'*

Thank you."

Pinoy boxer sparkles

KUANAS, Lithuania—Lightweight Anthony Igusquiza unleashed his killer punch in the second round to stop Danas Peciukonis of Lithuania as Team Caltex Philippines assured itself of at least four bronze medals Thursday going into the semifinals of the sixth Algirdas Socikas International Boxing Championships here.

Sunday SPORTS

Editor Al S. Mendoza ◎ Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Mangulat

GOLF: LPGA Kraft Nabisco Championship, Final Round at 8 a.m. on Star Sports and 6 p.m. (r – midnight) on ESPN

Senior PGA Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf, Third Round at 12 noon on Star Sports

SERING CUP

Asian track officials due for Nat'l Open

By Marc Anthony Reyes

TOP officials of the Asian Amateur Athletics Association led by its president Shri Suresh Kalmadi have confirmed their attendance in the Milo National Open invitational track and field championship which will be held in honor of former 4As founder Gov. Jose Sering from May 1-4 at the Rizal track oval.

This was announced by Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association president Go Teng Kok, who added that all 15 4As officials as well as the representatives of the 44 member-nations have signified their intention to attend the event also known as the Gov. Sering Memorial Cup.

"Aside from the 4As council meeting, they have also promised to participate in the tribute which we are planning to hold in honor of Governor Sering on the evening of May 3," said Go.

Also coming over is former 4As president Bob Hasan, who will be the Patafa chief's personal guest. Though Hasan is no longer connected with 4As, he requested to be included in the posthumous program for the Sering, having been one of the late leader's protégés.

Maurice Nicholas, 4As' honorary secretary general, will also be here as well as vice presidents Sheikh Khalid Bin Thani Al-Thani (Qatar), Xiutang Shang (China), Hideyuki Sasaki (Japan), Gen. Mounfak Joumaa (Syria) and Gen. Lertrat Ratanavich (Thailand).

Council members K.V. Varghese (Brunei), William J. Ko (Hong Kong), Dr. Eidi Alijani (Iran), Vladimir Zykov (Kazakhstan), Mohammad Sadeq (Kuwait), Datuh Dr. M. Jegathesan (Malaysian), Rukma Shumsher Rana (Nepal) and Ranjith Weerasena (Sri Lanka) also vowed to come over.

Staunch Ally favored today

STAUNCH Ally, the horse who shocked Wind Blown in the recent Commissioner's Cup, will be the heavy favorite in the P1-million PCSO Grand Championship race this afternoon at the San Lazaro Hippodrome.

The race caps Manila Jockey Club's six-day racing festival which will also be spiced up by the P350,000.00 Hopeful Stakes, according to MJCI president and chief executive, lawyer Alfonso R. Reyno Jr.

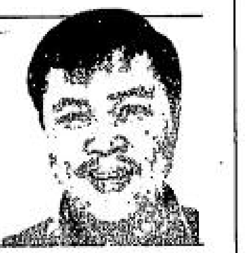
Challenging Staunch Ally over 1,500 meters are former sweepstakes race winners Family Task, Holy King and Sky Hawk as well as Hostile Witness.

The fleet-footed four-year-old colt, owned and bred by businessman-sportsman Aristeo G. Puyat, will be ridden anew by regular jockey Dominador "Rapid Fire" Borbe Jr. in their quest to bag the P600,000 top purse put up by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

'Tatlong itlog'

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva



FROM a deluge of e-mails we received the past few days, here's another interesting piece about the race callers at the Santa Ana Park and San Lazaro Hippodrome:

Dear Mr. Villanueva,

Magandang araw sa iyo at sa iyong Silip Boy!

Sinusubaybayan ko ang iyong column sa PDI at may mga articles ka and letters from racing fans about the comedians, err, race callers pala. Allow me to share my view, too.

Take the case of the race callers at Santa Ana. Let's call them "tatlong itlog."

Until recently, the coverage at Santa Ana is done by Winner's Circle (tama ba?). It's bad enough that you hear the voices of these race callers during the races and then, one weekend, wala na ang group ni Mr. Sevilla and pinalitan na ng "tatlong itlog."

Just wondering what happened. And what's a fine, talented and smart lady like Jenny (wife of jockey AB Alcasid Jr.) doing with them? Baka mahawa ka sa kanila, *hija!*

Back to the "tatlong itlog. Yung isa kaboses ni Boy Ke. I think kareristas know him. To those who don't, siya daw yung race caller sa mga karera ng bangka at naging club announcer nga. Totoo ba itong kuwentong ito? And you're probably wondering what 'Ke' stands for? Boses ano(?) daw siya! Huwag na lang, baka ma-censored pa.

Itong isang ito mahilig magsabi ng "drops back in second." Tama ba yung ' "n"? O dapat "to"? Pag ito ang nag-call ng race, malamang talo ang taya ko.

The second whom they call the veteran, ay parang si Kuya Cesar. Kilala nyo naman siguro si Kuya Cesar. Walaaaaaaaang kalatoy-latoy.

The third one, pakinggan nyong maigi pag nag call ng race ang isang ito. Parang parepareho. Mga pangalan lang ng kabayo ang nag-iiba. One example na paborito nyang sabihin ay ito.... "as they move toward the backstretch" o kaya ``and into the backstretch they travel"...Without fail na sinasabi nya yan.

Over at San Lazaro, dalawa lang ang familiar ang voices sa akin. Yung isa na parang si Kuya Cesar or Si Ben David ang boses na wala ring kalatoy-latoy. No wonder madalas itong mag-call ng race pag maaga pa at outstanding favorite ang tatakbo.

The other one, ito yata yung JR Cabansag. Minsan nakakaaliw, pero madalas nakakabuwisit. Hindi yata alam nito ang letter "f" and "v." Kagaya ni "Boy Ke" ng SA.

Hanggang dito na lang, Pareng Edwin (if I can call you that). Sana ilagay mo naman ang e-mail address mo right after your column so others can also send their comments.

Good luck and more power!

RAMIL A. MONTOYA
(ramontoya@edsamail.com.ph)

***

Like Mr. Montoya, you can get in touch with One Winner through evillanueva@inquirer.com.ph or sports@inquirer.com.ph

C. de Oro hosts Kitefest 8th leg

THE BEAR Brand Kitefest 2002—the biggest and most prestigious kite-flying competition in the country—returns to Mindanao for the second time in two months when it holds the eighth leg in Cagayan de Oro City this weekend.

Venue of the event is the Don Gregorio Pelaez Sports Complex.

Trophies, cash prizes and gift packs await the winners in the six different categories: adults figure kite and geometric kite, college figure kite and geometric kite, high school flat kite and elementary flat kite.

An annual undertaking of Nestle Philippines Inc. as part of its efforts to promote worthwhile summer activity for the whole family, the kitefest has already attracted thousands of kite-flying enthusiasts in different parts of the country since the kickoff leg in Dumaguete City last Feb. 3.

SPORTSWATCH

Gullas net meet set

CEBU—Top junior players in the Visayas and Mindanao regions are expected to crowd Manila-based nationally ranked age groupers for honors when the 7th Gullas Junior Tennis Cup kicks off on April 17-21 at the Sancase Tennis Club and Cebu Country Club here. The Gullas Cup, a commitment to youth sports by the sponsoring clan of Rep. Jose "Dodong" Gullas, Talisay mayor Eddie Gullas and Johnvic Gullas, is a Group-2 sanctioned event by the Philippine Tennis Association. Deadline for the Gullas Cup supported by Dunlop/Slazenger is set at 12 noon on April 16. Interested age groupers may call Elena and Jojie at 032-3450342 or fax their entries at 032-3454416.

F1 party tonight

THE F1 Club Live hosts diehard fans of Formula One racing in an early evening party celebrating the San Marino Grand Prix, Round 4 of the 2002 Formula One World Grand Prix Championships, at the Craic at 7 tonight. The Craic is an authentic Irish pub located at the penthouse or Max's Restaurant on Jupiter Street near Makati Avenue in Makati City. The Craic boasts of a state of the art widescreen TV projection system and TV monitors strewn around the place to make it the perfect venue for watching the live feed of the F1 races. Xtreme Worx is the group behind the F1 Club Live.

Karting series on tap

TALENTED young karters will be the main focus this time as the 2002 Shell Karting Super Series stages its third leg on April 20-21 at the Carmona Circuit Philippines. Michelle Bumgarner of M&M Racing and Mica Anton of Edgesport are expected to be the darlings of the crowd as they'll try to show girl power anew in this event sponsored by Pilipinas Shell, Casino Filipino, Bridgestone, Zed, Nokia and Coca-Cola Bottlers. Bumgarner and Anton drew a big support from spectators as they checked in first and second in the Zed KYT Juniors over made rivals Mark Bumgarner, first leg winner Mateo Guidecelli and 2001 Cadet 60 champion Ken Manzanes.

Top seed gets axe

UNRANKED Gioley Ann Sagansay eliminated top seed Lorraine Mae Barrientos, 6-2, 2-6, 10-7, while second seed Tao Yee Tan blasted Mary Joy Gavaveron, 6-0, 6-0, to advance in the girls' 14-under finals of the Alibor-Accel Bacolod Tennis Classic at the Negros Occidental Tennis Association (Nota) courts. Tan, the No. 2 seed in the 12-under class, scored a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Christina Abrot to advance in the finals against top seed Martina Guba, who struggled past the third-ranked Sagansay, 6-0, 6-7 (6), 10-4.

Jochico No. 1 striker

ANGELICA Jochico, a 19-year-old University of St. La Salle senior, scored 14 goals for Negros Occidental in the elimination round to emerge as the No. 1 striker in the ongoing National Women's Football Championship at the Ateneo field. Jochico knocked in five markers Friday as the Negrenses blasted Camarines Norte, 13-0, to complete a sweep of their three Group A assignments.

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Kitana 2. Windlass 3. Powerhouse 4. Hole in One

Race 2—1. Fortunate 2. Grand Prize 3. Ray Moon 4. Black Ijhay

Race 3—1. Anytime Anywhere/Reign Supreme 2. Bright Star 3. Silakbo/Siete de Marso 4. Striking Abbey 5. Explorer

Race 4—1. Star Conquest 2. Race for Gold 3. Houdini 4. Native Talent

Race 5—1. Maayo Kaayo 2. Dazzling Doe 3. Golden Dave 4. Cuadro de Alas 5. Main Street 6. High and Mighty

Race 6—1. Ilocandia Slew 2. Arriba King

Race 7—1. Earth Angel 2. Meal Ticket 3. Majestic Ruler

Race 8—1. Staunch Ally/Holy King 2. Sky Hawk

Race 9—1. Classic Model 2. Never Quit 3. Yes Sir 4. Togsi's Ambition

Race 10—1. Prickly Heat 2. Kay Gee Em Ey 3. Free Entrance 4. Exchange Deal 5. Patago

Race 11—1. Dream Play 2. Sunny Puddles/Sheba's Dream 3. Astuce 4. Jade Louise 5. Baby Lite 6. Kay Rufina

Race 12—1. King Aldrin 2. Jamie's Princess 3. Danielle's Angel 4. Night Flight 5. Strong Bird

Race 13—1. Arresbee 2. Morning Glory 3. Spirited Lady 4. Grace and Fortune.

Race 14—1. Heading West 2. Gold Marlin 3. Gifted Angel 4. Isabel's Gossip 5. Wendy's Pride 6. King Size

SPIKE POWER ROMY HOMILLADA

Kent Bulabon (left) of Dumaguete's Foundation University spikes over Glenn Gonzales of Iloilo Doctor's College during the VisMin eliminations of the 6th Nestea beach volley championships yesterday at the La Salle Greenhills sand courts. Foundation won, 21-17. Also winning their matches in the men's division were University of San Carlos, Central Visayas Polytechnic College, University of San Agustin, University of Mindanao and University of St. La Salle-Bacolod, La Salle-Dasmariñas and University of Assumption. Baguio Colleges Foundation, La Salle-Dasmariñas, and Pangasinan State University triumphed in the distaff side.

SVI Grand Prix on

FERDINAND Ong Rota-Speedwelle-Outlast Battery is the defending champion, but the rest of the country's top circuit drivers will be around to challenge him in the first two rounds of the SVI-Petron Grand Prix at the newly upgraded Subic International raceway this weekend.

Ong, who became only the sixth driver to win the title in circuit racing last year, will defend his title in the centerpiece super saloon category against a star-studded field which also include last year's runner-up Kookie Ramirez and third placer Nilo Pazcoguin.

Ong defeated Ramirez, 74-69, in last year's closely fought series.

"It will be very difficult, but I'll do my best to retain the title," said Ong, who joined the late Arthur Tuason, Jody Coseteng, Georges Ramirez, Miguel Ramirez and Pocholo Ramirez in the roster of champions since circuit racing was revived in 1994.

The other top drivers to watch this year are actor-sportsman Monching Gutierrez of the newly formed Dickies Racing Team, Menchie Francisco of Petron-SRA and Carlos Anton of Zed-Gulf Oil-MP Turbo.

For details, call SVI at 671 -6926.

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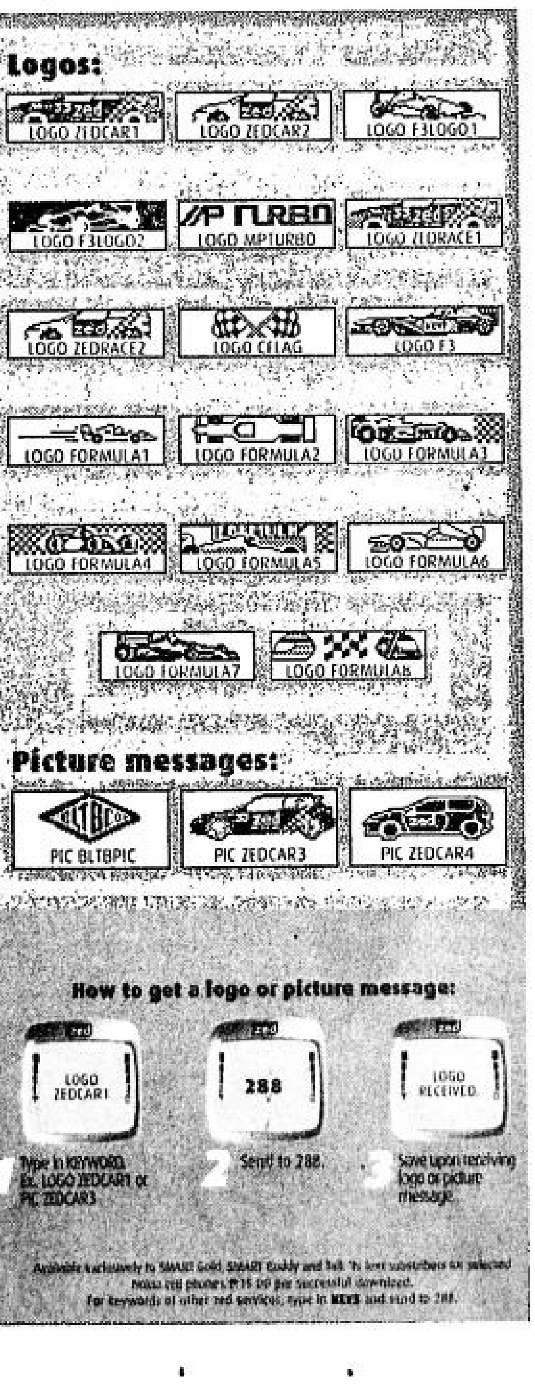
Asian Formula 3	zed - tom's racing team	jojo silverio	zhuhai, china	5-may
Shell Super Karting Series	zed - futura racing team	pepon marave jess garcia guidicelli giannatteo	carmona race track carmona, cavite	20-21 april



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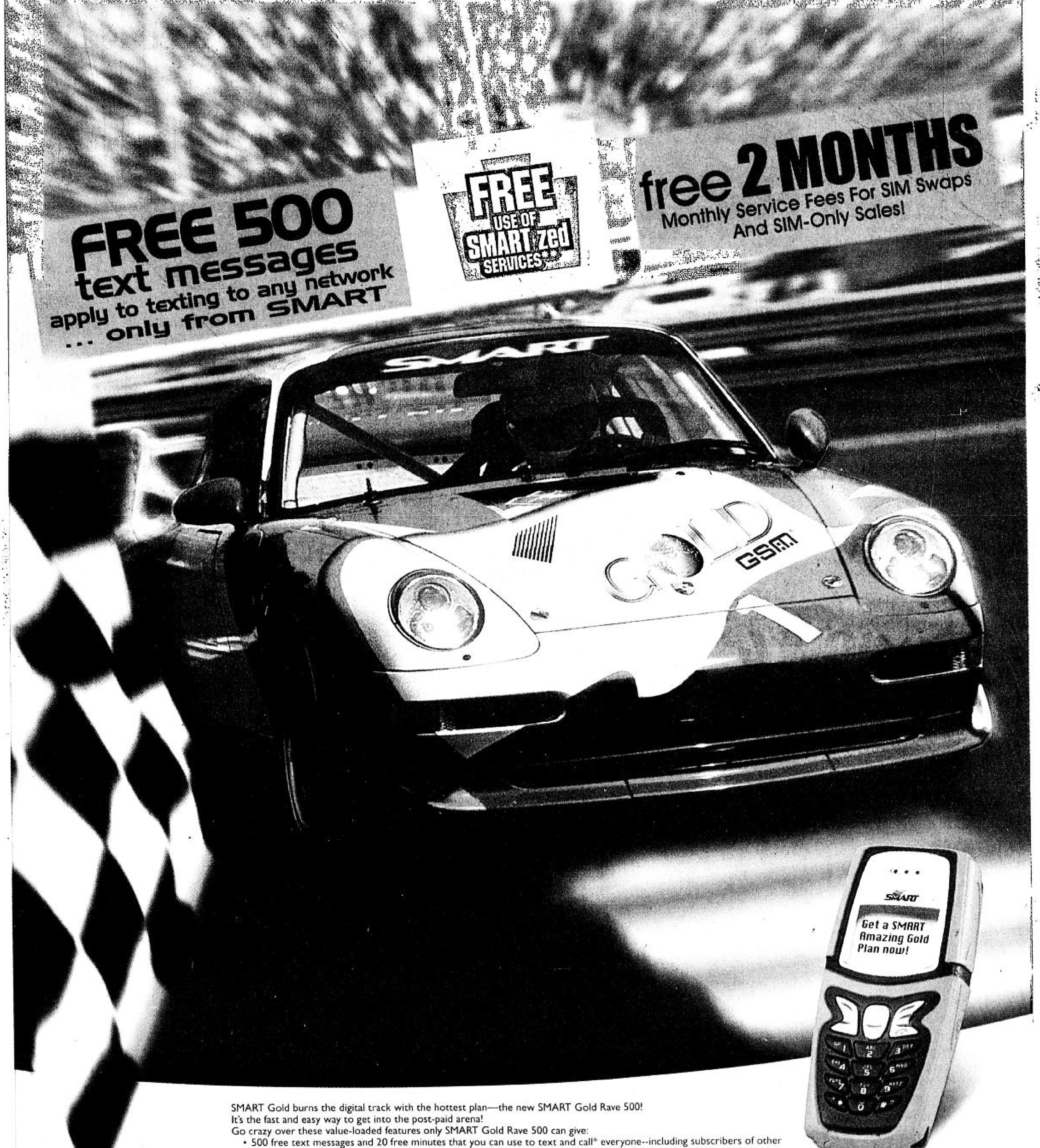

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Court rejects 'Mamburao 6' motion /A26
3 cops, 1 police aide killed in shootout with robbery gang /A26

METRO

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Pay up, Nora Aunor told

AUNOR

By Tonette Orejas,
PDI Central Luzon Desk

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga—Provincial Board Member Lilia Pineda, wife of Estrada crony Bong Pineda, yesterday said she still has the title to the house and lot that actress Nora Aunor pawned to her in 1998.

Pineda, speaking through her son, Lubao Mayor Dennis Pineda, said Aunor could immediately redeem the title when she has fully paid all her dues, including interest payments.

Mrs. Pineda did not give Aunor a forfeiture period, which commercial banks usually do when mortgaged properties are not paid.

"As long as she pays up, we will give her back the title," he said.

Aunor on Friday admitted that she asked the help of former Ilocos Sur Governor Luis "Chavit" Singson in selling her house in Balete Drive, Quezon City, which former President Joseph Estrada had given her.

Aunor requested Singson to locate Mrs. Pineda to whom she pawned the house for P3.5 million in 1998.

Mayor Pineda said his mother has just undergone surgery for an ailment which he did not specify.

He declined to say how much Aunor actually owes his mother, only saying it was a "private transaction."

He did not refute Aunor's claim that she owes his mother P8.7 million, including the principal amount and interests.

"She (Aunor) need not worry," the young Pineda said. "The title is secure."

Mayor Pineda expressed surprise over Aunor's claim that she had been looking for his mother through Singson. He said the actress has been regularly in touch with his mother.

"In fact, we are well aware that

PAY UP/ A26

ALINGCASTRE

Lineman aims higher than 90-foot pole

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

TALES OF THE CITY

FREDDIE E. Alingcastre remembers that when he was about 10, he would watch linemen working in his neighborhood for hours. He would even miss lunch just to keep on watching them, amazed at how they could work at the top of the 90-foot-electric posts with the transformers and the high-voltage power lines.

Their uniforms, equipment and radios fascinated the little boy from Tipas, Taguig. In 1993, a dream came true for Alingcastre when he started working as a lineman with the Manila Electric Co.

Still, he felt that the top of the 90-foot pole would be the highest that he would ever reach in the company. He thought he had no chance of being more than an ordinary lineman, for he had no college degree and no connections.

But he had other assets. He had integrity, he knew the value of hard work, and he had the ability to work well with others.

He was also willing to put in more than what was required of him, and he was ready to work through floods, rains and disasters.

Alingcastre, 33, was named Meralco's model employee of 2001, beating four other nominees. They were picked from more than 4,000 rank and file employees of the country's largest private electric utility firm.

Exceptional

The award went to Alingcastre because he was rated exceptional since he became a regular employee in 1996.

LINEMAN AIMS/ A26

Woman in BMW hunted for nurse's slay

By Alcuin Papa

POLICE are looking for a matron from Ayala-Alabang who allegedly shot and killed a 43-year-old nurse in Las Piñas City the other day.

Police said Belma Andrada of Chico Street, Golden Acres, Barangay Talon, Las Piñas City, succumbed to a gunshot wound in the chest.

The suspect was identified as Mary Beth Lopez, 57, said to be a member of the Madrigal clan, and a resident of Ayala-Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

According to the driver-bodyguard of the suspect, Wences Tablang, of Brickstoneville, Camarin, Caloocan City, he was supposed to drive Lopez and her husband in the couple's BMW sedan to where the suspect lives.

Lopez wanted to talk to Andrada about an undisclosed matter, Tablang told SPO4 Ben Javier.

But Lopez chanced upon Andrada at the corner of Elizalde Street and Tropical Avenue at BF International Resort Village in Las Piñas City around 7:30 a.m.

There was a heated exchange of words, which ended when Lopez pulled out a gun and fired once, police said.

Tablang rushed the victim to the hospital but was too late, according to SPO4 Javier.

Investigators refused to release any more details of the case.

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DESPITE GMA RECOMMENDATION

Court rejects 'Mamburao 6' motion

By Agnes E. Donato

A QUEZON CITY judge has denied the motion for the release of the six farmers accused of killing the sons of former congressman Ricardo Quintos' in 1997.

Despite the recommendation of President Macapagal-Arroyo to spare the accused, Judge Maria Teresa Yadao of QC Regional Trial Court Branch 81 denied the motion of the defense lawyers to have the six farmers released on recognizance.

In January, President Macapagal issued a memorandum recommending the release of the six accused as a confidence-building measure to restart peace talks with the communist-led National Democratic Front.

The so-called "Mamburao 6," all suspected members of the New People's Army, were accused of killing Paul and Michael Quintos on Dec. 13, 1997 in Mamburao town, Mindoro Occidental.

They are Ruben Balaguer, Gelito Bautista, Eduardo Hermoso, Mario Tobias, Josue Ungsod and Manolito Mauricio.

All six denied they are members of the NPA.

"The court respects the memorandum (recommending the release of the accused) because it bears the stamp of approval of no less than the President," Judge Yadao said in her three-page resolution.

"It is however clear in the memorandum that the release of the accused on bail or recognizance is still dependent on the discretion of the court."

Yadao maintained she could not grant the motion of the six men because their case did not fall under the legal instances in which an accused could be released on recognizance.

She explained that the court could only release an accused if the person in custody is charged with a light felony or a criminal offense which carries a penalty that does not exceed six months of imprisonment; if the accused has been in custody for a period equal to or more than the minimum of the imposable penalty; and if he or she has applied for probation pending the resolution of the case.

On Dec. 13, 1997, Michael and Paul Quintos were killed in an ambush in Barangay Cinco, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro. Their father, former Rep. Ricardo Quintos, accused a political rival, then Occidental Mindoro Rep. Jose Villarosa, of masterminding the killing.

A few days after the killings, the NPA claimed responsibility for the Quintos murders in an unsigned letter sent to the Inquirer. In the letter, the NPA described the Quintoses as "despotic landlords who allegedly harassed and killed workers and farmers."

Later, Hermoso reportedly confessed to the killing and admitted he was the gunman. He said he was present at a meeting in which Villarosa allegedly discussed the assassination of Michael.

Villarosa, who was elected governor in the last elections, is out on a P400,000 bail. Although murder is a non-bailable offense, the presiding judge allowed Villarosa to post bail after declaring the evidence against him as weak.

3 cops, 1 police aide killed in shootout with robbery gang

By Carmela Reyes
PDI Central Luzon Desk

THREE policemen, including the deputy police chief of Meycauayan, Bulacan, and a police aide were killed in a shootout with a group of armed robbers on McArthur Highway in Bulacan yesterday afternoon.

Supt. Jake de Leon, Meycauayan police director, said Senior Insp. Jose Valdez, SPO3 Emmanuel Arce, SPO3 Sozimo Jocson, and police aide Fortunato Culiana, were in a police outpost in Barangay Calvario, Meycauayan, when they received a report about 2 p.m. that about 10 armed robbers had hit the New Life Jewelry Store, about 500 meters away.

The four policemen engaged the robbers in a 10-minute gunfight where Arce, Jocson and Culiana were instantly killed, De Leon said.

Valdez, Meycauayan deputy police director and chief of the local police's traffic section, died an hour later in a Bulacan hospital.

De Leon said some of the suspects were hit, but all were able to escape on board a Mitsubishi L-300 van and a Toyota Revo.

Police said the robbers also took with them some P5 million in cash and jewelry.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, April 14, 2002
3rd Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: **Acts 2:14, 22-33**

On Pentecost Day, Peter stood up with the Eleven and, with a loud voice, addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all foreigners now staying in Jerusalem, listen to what I have to say.

Fellow Israelites, listen to what I am going to tell you about Jesus of Nazareth. God accredited him and through him did powerful deeds and wonders and signs in your midst, as you well know. You delivered him to sinners to be crucified and killed, and in this way the purpose of God from all times was fulfilled.

But God raised him to life and released him from the pain of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in the power of death. David spoke of him when he said: *I saw the Lord before me at all times; he is by my side, that I may not be shaken. Therefore my heart was glad and my tongue rejoiced; my body too will live in hope. Because you will not forsake me in the abode of the dead, nor allow your Holy One to experience corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life, and your presence will fill me with joy.*

Friends, I don't need to prove that the patriarch David died and was buried; his tomb is with us to this day. But he knew that God had sworn to him that one of his descendants would sit upon his throne and, as he was a prophet, he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah. So he said that *he would not be left in the region of the dead, nor would his body experience corruption.*

This Messiah is Jesus and we are all witnesses that God raised him to life. He has been exalted at God's right side and the Father has entrusted the Holy Spirit to him; this Spirit he has just poured upon us as you now see and hear."

2nd Reading: 1 P 1:17-21

Dear brothers and sisters, you call upon a Father who makes no distinction between persons but judges according to each one's deeds; take seriously, then, these years which you spend in a strange land. Remember that you were freed from the useless way of life of your ancestors, not with gold and silver but with the precious blood of the Lamb without spot or blemish. God, who has known Christ before the world began, revealed him to you in the last days. Through him, you have faith in God who raised him from the dead and glorified him in order that you might put all your faith and hope in God.

Gospel: Lk 24:13-35

Two of the disciples were going to Emmaus, a village seven miles from Jerusalem, and they talked about what had happened. While they were talking and wondering, Jesus came up and walked with them, but their eyes were held and they did not recognize him.

He asked, "What is this you are talking about?" The two stood still, looking sad. Then one named Cleophas answered, "Why, it seems you are the only traveler in Jerusalem who doesn't know what has happened there these past few days." And he asked, "What is it?"

They replied, "It is about Jesus of Nazareth. He was a prophet, you know, mighty in word and deed before God and the people. But the chief priests and our rulers sentenced him to death. They handed him over to be crucified. We had hoped that he would redeem Israel.

It is now the third day since all this took place. It is true that some women of our group have disturbed us. When they went to the tomb at dawn, they did not find his body; they came to tell us that they had seen a vision of angels who told them that Jesus was alive. Some friends of our group went to the tomb and found everything just as the women had said, but they did not see him."

He said to them, "How dull you are, how slow of understanding! You fail to believe the message of the prophets. Is it not written that the Christ should suffer all this and then enter his glory?" Then starting with Moses and going through the prophets, he explained to them everything in the Scriptures concerning himself.

As they drew near the village they were heading for, Jesus made as if to go farther. But they prevailed upon him, "Stay with us, for night comes quickly. The day is now almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When they were at table, he took the bread, said a blessing, broke it and gave each a piece.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; but he vanished out of their sight. And they said to each other, "Were not our hearts filled with ardent yearning when he was talking to us on the road and explaining the Scriptures?"

They immediately set out and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and their companions gathered together. They were greeted by these words: "Yes, it is true, the Lord is risen! He has appeared to Simon!" Then the two told what had happened on the road and how Jesus made himself known when he broke bread with them.

Commentary

Is the pattern becoming familiar? As we walk our journey of life, the Risen Christ approaches, without being invited, and walks beside us. We do not recognize him at first. He is too ordinary. Enlightenment is realizing that nothing is more amazing than the ordinary. We discuss about him, we search for him when he is right beside us in the market, the office or the bus queue. Perhaps you know someone who is ill, survived a heart attack, fearful in the face of death, and struggling to sustain faith and hope. Can you bring them the Eucharist? At such times, familiar things are comforting: food, friends, prayers known since childhood. The simple, humble presence of Jesus in the familiar sign of bread, Jesus who has been walking beside us unrecognized, awaiting the moment for our eyes to be opened.

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Chavit Singson's daughter chased over parking fee

By Alcuin papa

THE DAUGHTER of former Ilocos Sur governor Luis "Chavit" Singson had a run-in with carpark guards on Friday after she tried to avoid paying for parking space in Makati City.

Richele Louise Singson, 20, of LCS Building, San Andres Bukid, Manila, was driving a black Mitsubishi Pajero (TKZ-290) when the incident happened.

In the vehicle with Singson were brothers Quinito, 23, and Rommel Rivera, 28, both of Mandaluyong City, police said.

Investigators said the group tried to leave the Dela Rosa Carpark 2 in Legaspi Village, Makati City about 4:30 p.m. without paying the parking fee, claiming they lost the ticket.

Security guard Norberto Salmo of the Premium Security Agency said he was surprised to see the vehicle barreling toward the exit and almost running him over.

This led to a brief chase until Singson stopped, police said. A brief argument ensued and one of Singson's companions allegedly threatened Salmo.

The blotter report also revealed that Singson was not able to present any vehicle registration papers when she was stopped. The report also said her license had expired.

Pay up, Nora . . .

From page A25

she is selling the house to the original owner, William Uy, for P22 million," he said in Filipino.

He said Uy wants the house back for only P15 million. Uy is reportedly a crony of Estrada, too.

He said there was no need for Aunor to locate his mother or use intermediaries since his mother "has not been hiding."

"She would not run for public office if she had been hiding or running away from her obligations," he said of his mother.

During the Senate investigation of the *jueteng* scandal that led to Estrada's ouster, Singson alleged that the President received *jueteng* protection money from Pineda.

"My father has no role whatsoever in this transaction," the Lubao mayor said. "Please don't drag him into this. Out of pity for the actress and because she was in the business of real estate, my mother helped her."

Aunor on Friday said she pawned the house after Estrada failed to fulfill his promise to finance her solo concert at the Araneta Coliseum in December 1998.

"He (Estrada) said he would shoulder the P3-million production cost of the concert, but when I approached him, he turned me down," Aunor explained.

"The date of the concert had been announced and I didn't want to disappoint the fans, so I was forced to pawn the house."

She has a smaller house on Pentagon Street, near Broadcast City, in Capitol Hills, Quezon City. The P5-million house was a form of payment she received from film producer Derek Dee, when she did the movie "Inay" with Dee's ex-wife, Melanie Marquez.

Aunor said she shuttles between her Balete Drive house and the one in Capitol Hills.

In Balete Drive, she lives with her younger brother Eddie Boy Villamayor and her sons Kiko and Kenneth.

Aunor ran for governor in Camarines Sur in the May 14 elections last year, but she lost to Luis Villafuerte.

Lineman aims higher . . .

From page A25

The award-givers noted that he has never been cited for any disciplinary action and he possessed "integrity, quality, productivity, teamwork and *malasakit* or dedication and commitment to the company."

"I was surprised when I was called to receive the award because all the while I thought it would be one of the other nominees," he recalls to the INQUIRER in Filipino. "But when I realized that it was really me, I was so happy and my family was very happy for me. I thought that all my hard work amounted to something."

Alingcastre knew all about hard work even before he joined Meralco. The youngest of seven children, he had to start working after high school to help his mother earn money for the family. His father had a heart ailment.

"I really wanted to go to college but my mother told me that I could not go to school because we had no money," he says. "I ended up helping her sell fish in the market. Perhaps this is the reason why I matured early."

8 to 8

From there he took on different jobs. At 17, he worked in the factory of Wander Phils. which made Ovaltine, moved on to the United Laboratories where he packed ointments, helped make Chippy for Universal Robina Corp., and then went back to Wander.

"There was also a time when I worked for an automotive contractor where I started as a helper," he said. He worked there from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. with a large mallet as his companion. He fashioned steel plates into truck spare parts.

He also cleaned the inside of concrete mixers, chipping away at the dried cement with no safety equipment. His leg was almost cut off because the mixer blades were sharp and one fell right next to his leg.

"I could not be choosy about the work because we needed the money," he says. "Whatever the work, I always give it my 100 percent."

ALINGCASTRE

When Meralco hired him as a contractual employee, Alingcastre saw his chance to fulfill his childhood dream of becoming a lineman.

Happy, sad news

He went through the six-month training course, which he described as similar to military boot camp. The trainees woke up early, jogged and practised karate, ate a little and then went back to work as linemen going up and down electric poles. The rule was, four absences and you're out.

He was happy with the training. At the same time, he was anticipating the birth of his second child.

One morning while he was in training, he was told the happy news that his wife had given birth to a boy.

"I was so happy, I almost ran all the way home," he says. "My whole family was excited because he was the first grandson in the family. All his cousins were girls."

The next day, he went to work very happy and inspired. But just a few hours into the day's work, his father came with tragic news: His new baby had died.

"I cannot describe how I felt when my father told me the news. I wanted to rush home to be with my wife and son but there were rules in training. Fortunately, my superior allowed me to go home. My son died and we never knew why.

"At that time I felt that I had the weight of the world on my shoulders," he adds.

Future supervisor

As if that was not enough, he got very sick and had to be rushed to the hospital. The next day, he insisted on going to work. He simply removed the IV and left the hospital.

"In our work as linemen, being sick is not an excuse and I took that to heart," he says. "If you love your family then you should love your work, too, because it helps you support them."

His diligence enabled him to move up at work almost every year. He is now training to be a lead man, the No. 2 position in the crew. The lead man is sent out to put up transformers and maintain the lines.

His diligence did not go unnoticed. "His rise to his present position was remarkably fast, showing how skilled and dedicated he is to his job," says a Meralco memorandum on his award. "He is well equipped in his line of work and has the qualities of a future supervisor.

"Through calamities and system problems, Alingcastre can be counted on to do fieldwork and extra chores," the memorandum adds.

Alingcastre believes work is its own reward.

"When I started working here, I thought that the top of the 90-foot electric pole would be the highest that I could ever reach in this company," he says. "I learned that through perseverance and honest work, I can go higher."

3 gay men beat me up, says village security man

By Alcuin Papa

A SECURITY guard at a village in Makati City accused three gay men of beating him up after he tried to prevent them from entering the village Friday night.

Makati City Police Criminal Investigation Division chief Supt. Jose Ramon Salido identified the complainant as Lito Llenarizas, 26, of the JRP Security Agency and assigned to the San Miguel Village, Makati City.

Llenarizas went to the Makati City police station Friday night to file a complaint against the three gay men, one of whom was identified as Mutra Varona, a resident of San Miguel. The other two have not been identified.

Police said that at about 7:45 p.m. Friday, Llenarizas stopped the three at the village gate.

The guard told them Varona's brother had given explicit instructions not to let Varona's companions into the village.

Llenarizas told police that Varona's two companions pushed him around and later beat him up. The trio fled after the guard sprayed them with mace.

The guard showed police his swollen and bruised eye.

Varona said Llenarizas was arrogant, cursing and insulting them. They beat him up to teach him a lesson, he added.

Taguig barangays kick off Mayor's Cup tournament

TAGUIG Mayor Sigfrido "Freddie" R. Tinga yesterday opened the Taguig Volleyball Association (TVA) tournament.

In ceremonies that started at 8 a.m., TVA's Mayor's Cup kicked off with a parade of its 840 players from the municipal quadrangle to the C.P. Tinga Gymnasium in Hagonoy, Taguig.

For the TVA, the 18 barangays of Taguig was divided into six divisions. Each barangay is fielding teams of 14 players each.

The TVA follows the successful Taguig Basketball Association (TBA) which was launched in December 2001 with 1,826 players making up 133 teams. TBA, the biggest basketball league in Asia, winds up in May.

Like the TBA, TVA will end with the emergence of only one champion.

"We hope to produce champions in Taguig that will one day be the sports heroes of the country," Tinga said in a statement.

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5 S2PID LUV
6 MONTE CRISTO
7 BLOW DRY
8 E.T.
9 TIME MACHINE
10 CROSS ROADS

Ermita 536-7809-12
1 HARTS WAR
2 E.T.
3 MONTE CRISTO
4 BLADE 2
5 S2PID LUV
6 BLOW DRY
7 SHOWTIME

Metro East - Marcos hway 682-8193/8280
1 SHOWTIME
2 ICE AGE
3 SHOWTIME
4 E.T.
5 BLADE 2
6 S2PID LUV
7 TIME MACHINE
8 MIMIC 2

Novaliches 935-3229-30
1 HARTS WAR
2 ICE AGE
3 BLOW DRY
4 E.T.
5 BLADE 2
6 TIME MACHINE
7 S2PID LUV
8 SHOWTIME

Imus 471-8188/875-3838
1 BLADE 2
2 HARTS WAR
3 SHOWTIME
4 E.T.
5 S2PID LUV
6 BLOW DRY

Bacolod 441-0453/0459
1 E.T.
2 JOHN Q
3 HARI NG SELDA
4 GOT 2 BELIEVE
5 MONTE CRISTO
6 WE WERE SOLDIERS

Iloilo 336-8077-78
1 MONTE CRISTO
2 QUEEN OF THE DAMNED
3 JOHN Q
4 SHIPPING NEWS
5 S2PID LUV
6 E.T.

Star Mills- Sn Fernando, Pamp. 875-1927 961-5318/5270
1 MAJESTICS
2 BANDITS
3 BLADE 2
4 S2PID LUV
5 E.T.
6

malabon citisquare-
soon to open.

BRUCE WILLIS
HART'S WAR

Late Night Screening
on
April 12 & 13, 2002
Friday & Saturday -
11:00 p.m. @
Robinsons
Movieworld
Galleria

how-2-reach-us:
email: htc@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
call-a-movie '536-7812

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

The truth about Goma's transfer to GMA 7

THERE'S no bad blood between **Richard Gomez** and ABS-CBN.

This much the handsome actor said when he left ABS-CBN last week and signed a one-year network contract with GMA 7.

Starting today, Richard will host the show biz-oriented talk show, "S-Files," with **Janice de Belen**. For the first seven weeks, he will take over from **Paolo Bediones** who, in turn, will host a new game show, "Texters 5," also starting today. Paolo, however, is expected to return to "S-Files" after "Texters 5" ends its TV run.

"Making this decision was not easy for me," Richard says. "I've been with ABS-CBN since 1986. When 'Your Honor' was canceled last December, they gave me back 'Asap.' I was asking them what was going to happen, but I didn't get a reply.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

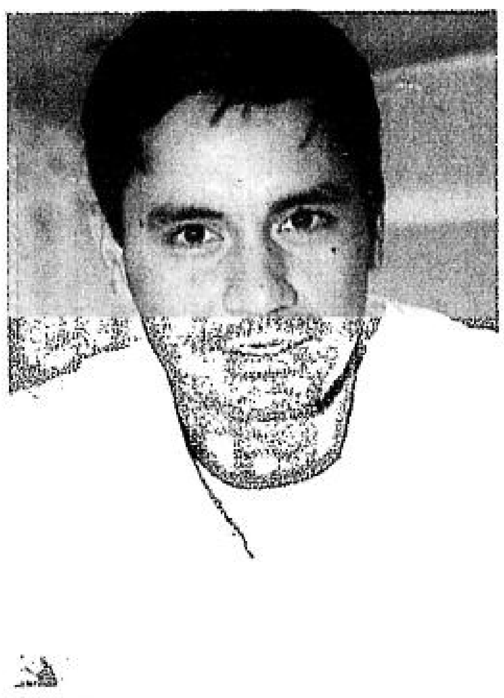
Leah Salterio

"I wanted to talk with them because I wanted to tell them something, from **Cory Vidanes** to **Charo (Santos)** to **Freddie (Garcia)**. But none of them was available. I took it as a sign. GMA 7's offer came at the right time. So I just informed my ABS-CBN bosses that I wanted to transfer."

Richard's talent manager, **Douglas Quijano**, said GMA 7 made a very good offer which the actor found hard to refuse. After all, the actor had no existing contract with ABS-CBN, so he was free to go.

Richard does not want his fans to speculate why he moved to the rival network.

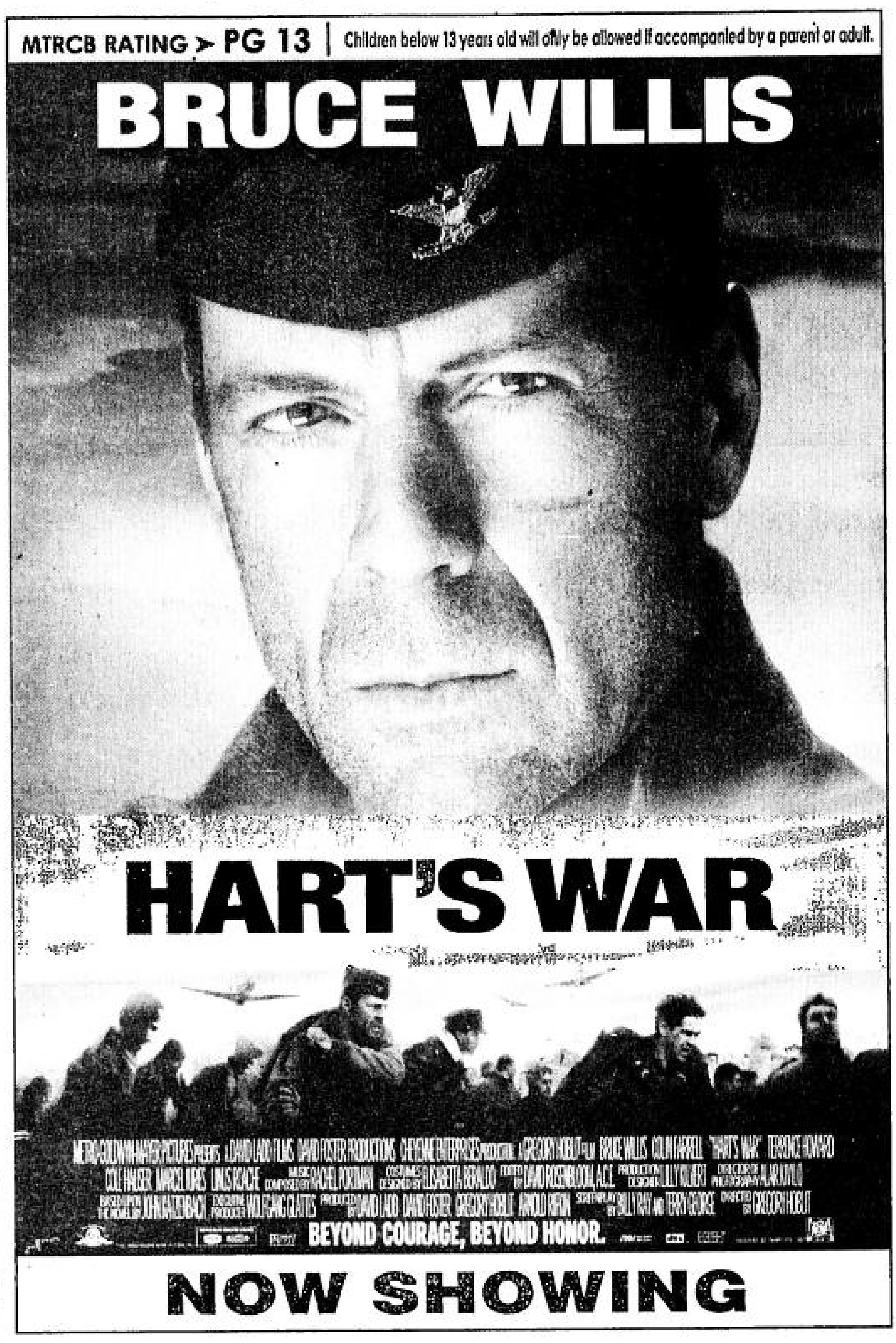
THE TRUTH/ A30



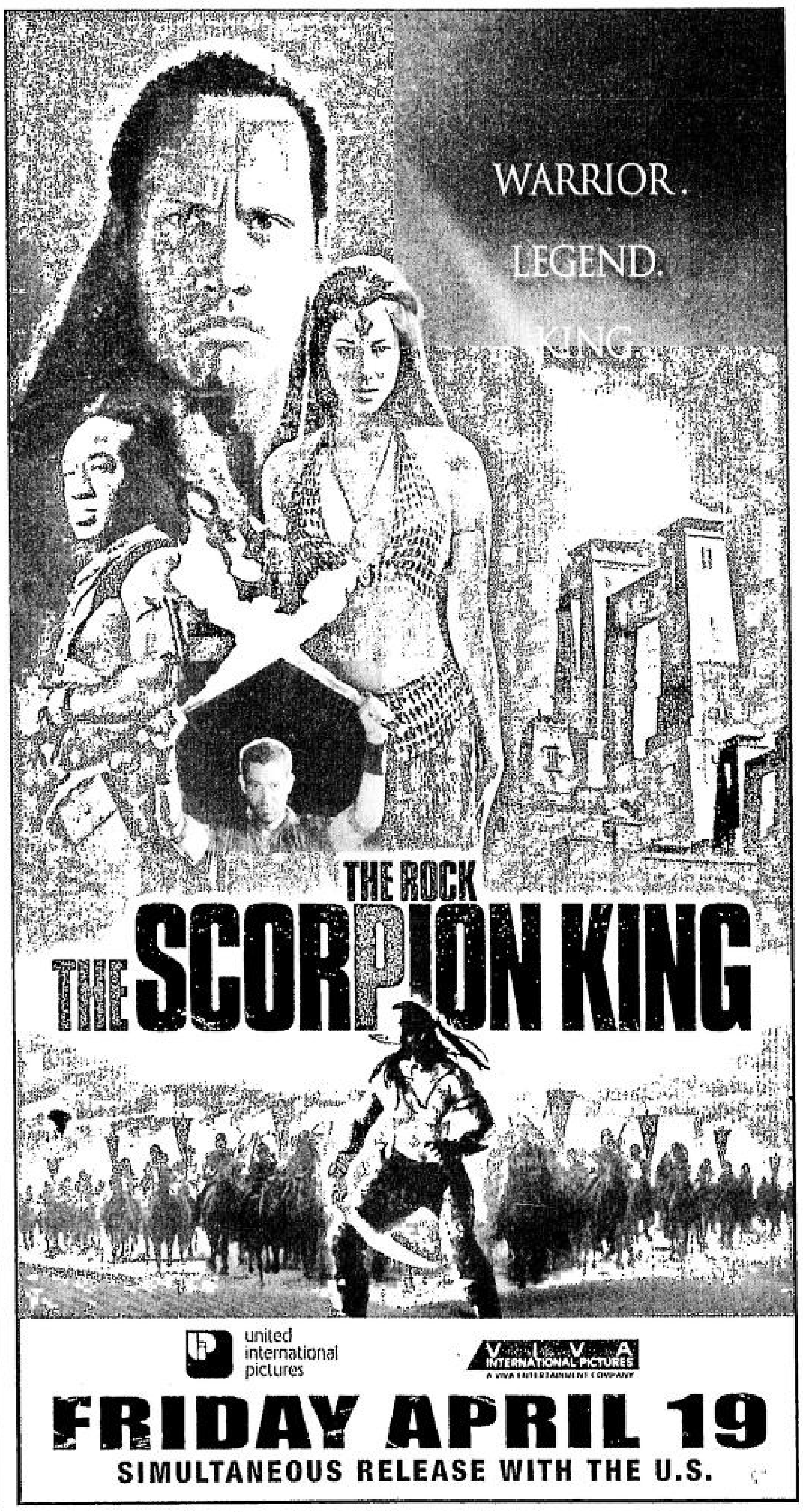
GOMEZ

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	S2PID LUV
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	HARI NG SELDA
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	BLADE 2
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	HART'S WAR
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	SHOW TIME
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	BLOW DRY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	E.T.
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	HARI NG SELDA
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	BLADE 2
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	HUBOG / TOO MUCH FLESH
ODEON	SHOWTIME
ODEON-2	HARI NG SELDA
ROBEN	ITLOG
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	HARRY POTTER / PHOSSED
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	ITLOG
REMAR	HARI NG SELDA
REMAR-2	ITLOG
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	S2PID LUV
B	ITLOG
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	HART'S WAR
CINEMA-2	E.T.
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	HARI NG SELDA
CINEMA-2	IKA-7 GLORYA
CINEMA-3	ITLOG
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BLADE 2
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	ICE AGE
CINEMA-6	GOT 2 BELIEVE
CINEMA-7	CROSS ROADS
CINEMA-8	TIME MACHINE
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	HARTS WAR
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SHOW TIME
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO
CINEMA-12	MIMIC 2
CINEMA-14	E.T.
CINEMA-15	S2PID LUV
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	HART'S WAR
CINEMA-2	SHOWTIME
CINEMA-3	E.T.
CINEMA-4	COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO
CINEMA-5	MIMIC 2
CINEMA-6	ICE AGE
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID



MTRCB RATING ➤ PG 13 | Children below 13 years old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
BRUCE WILLIS
HART'S WAR
BEYOND COURAGE, BEYOND HONOR.
NOW SHOWING



WARRIOR.
LEGEND.
KING.
THE ROCK
THE SCORPION KING
united international pictures
VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES
A VIVA ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY
FRIDAY APRIL 19
SIMULTANEOUS RELEASE WITH THE U.S.

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
SA SINEHAN, TAHANAN O LANSANGAN
S2PID LUV
ANG SIGAW NG BAYAN!
SALBAKUTA
ANDREW E.
BLAK DYAK
ANGELIKA DELA CRUZ
MAUI TAYLOR
S2PID LUV
KRISTINE JAKA MICHAEL FLORES
DIRECTED BY AL TANTAY
NOW SHOWING NATIONWIDE!

MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage | All Ages Admitted | Re-issue
The mystery. The suspense. The adventure.
The call... that started it all.
E.T.
THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL
THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY
NEVER BEFORE SEEN FOOTAGE • ENHANCED VISUAL EFFECTS • NEW RE-MASTERED SOUNDTRACK
ONLY IN CINEMAS
Now, you too can phone home.
Get an E.T. PLDT Fonkard today!
E.T. PLDT Fonkards come in 5 designs. PLDT Fonkards are available in all PLDT Business Offices, LBC stations, SM Malls, 7-11 outlets, [illegible] and other authorized dealers.
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VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

See it first!
SM CINEMA
ADVANCE SCREENING
SNOW DOGS
MTRCB RATING: GP
Invitational Ultimate Entertainment Inc.
Screening on April 14, 2002 • 7:30 pm
SM Megamall Cinema 10
Regular showing on April 17 at the SM CINEMAS.

UULAN NA NG CELLPHONES ARAW-ARAW SA PINAKABAGONG TEXT GAME!

Introducing

TALK 'N TEXT™ GSM

Txt-sakto Game

EASY LANG MANALO!

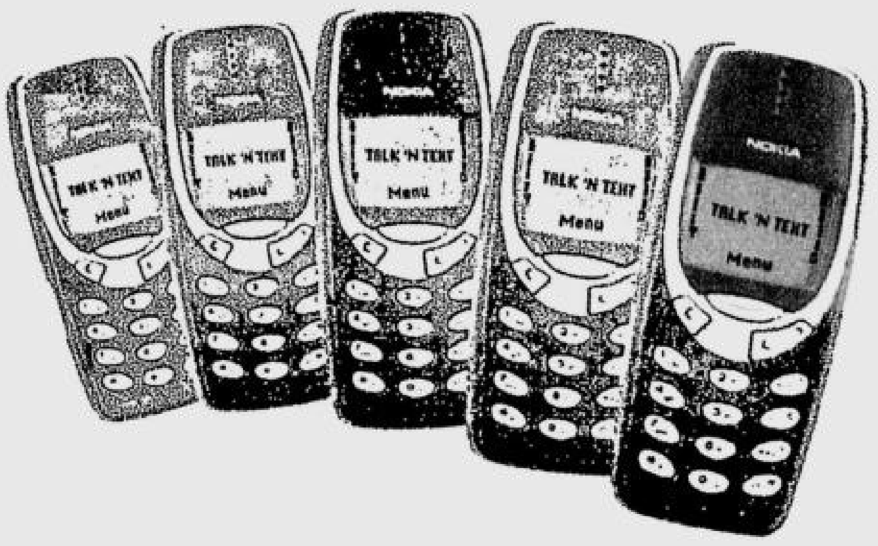
- **I-DOWNLOAD AT SAGUTIN ANG QUESTION FOR THE DAY!**

  Number lang ang sagot!
  May clues ka pa (higher or lower) until you get it right.

Sample question:	Sample answer:
Ano ang Peso value ng orange call and text card ng Talk 'N Text?	300

- **GET A CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF 5 NOKIA 3310S EVERY DAY!**

  The more correct answers you send every day, the more chances of winning, kaya send lang ng send!



MECHANICS:

- Promo is from April 14-June 12, 2002.
- To register, type JOIN and your full name, and send to 2868.
- The cellphone number will serve as the raffle entry identification.
- You can send the correct answer as many times as you can to increase your chances of winning.
- Only Txt-sakto registered subscribers can win. There can only be one (1) registered name per cellphone number.
- You can only win once per day.
- Correct entries collected from 12:05 AM-11:59 PM will be included in the daily draw.
- Five (5) winners will be drawn at 9:00 AM daily at Chikka Holdings Ltd., 3104B East Tower Philippine Stock Exchange, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.
- Winners will each get one (1) Talk 'N Text Nokia 3310 phonekit.
- Winners shall be notified via phone call and registered mail. To claim their prize, winners may go to the nearest Smart Wireless Center and present the ff:
  - -Valid ID (eg. driver's license, passport, company ID)
  - -Cellular phone
  - -Letter of Notification from Chikka.com
- Prizes not claimed after 60 days from date of notification will be forfeited. Prizes are not convertible to cash.
- In the event of a conflict as to the correctness of the answer to any question, the answers in file, which are based on extensive research by SMART Communications, Inc., PILTEL, and their advertising agencies will be considered the correct answer.
- All employees of Smart Communications, Inc., PILTEL, Chikka.com, Inc., and their Advertising agencies and relatives up to the 2nd degree of affinity or consanguinity are automatically disqualified from the promo.

JOIN Mike Santos	2868	ADD #2 Gil St., Lagro, Q.C.	Q	300
To join, type JOIN <full name> and send to 2868.		Then type ADD <complete address> and send to 2868.	To request the question for the day, type Q and send to 2868.	To answer the question, type <answer> and send to 2868.

OTHER KEYWORDS:

- HELP - to get all keywords for the game
- ENTRY - to check the number of correct entries you sent
- REM OFF - to turn off your daily reminder
- REM ON - to turn on your daily reminder
- RULES - to get game rules

Note: Leave a space after every keyword,
P2.50/transaction

Yan ang galing without overspending!

POWERED BY THE SMART NETWORK

For Inquiries, please call (02)888-1111(GMA), 1800-888-1111(VIS/MIN) or *888 from your Talk 'N Text cellphone.

The truth about Goma's . . .

From page A28

"I'm sure a lot of people will have wild ideas," he maintains. "I don't want this to be a circus, so I'm telling them the truth."

Richard was received warmly by his new GMA 7 family. A 10-seconder station ID was made especially for him. It shows a bouncing "o" inching its way between the letters G and M of the network's initials to form "GoMA," which is Richard's moniker.

"GMA 7 is taking an aggressive stand and I want to be part of an aggressive group," Richard says. "I'm a very aggressive person, and I'm also very competitive."

GMA 7 executive **Wilma Galvante** says Richard will also star in a soap that is now in the pre-production stage.

"He was looking for a sign, GMA saw the sign, so we all signed," Galvante says.

Richard is excited about hosting "S-Files," which airs at 4 p.m. today.

"It has been my long-time dream to host a talk show and I'm thankful GMA 7 made it come true," Richard says. "I enjoy talking to people and asking questions. Although it makes me a little nervous to be on 'S-Files' this Sunday, I am very thrilled at the new challenge in my career."

Being a talk show host will also make it easier for him to handle an issue or a controversy. "I have a venue where I can explain my side and answer the issue," he explains.

He counts President **Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Alma Moreno, Kris Aquino** and **Pops Fernandez** as among the personalities he wishes to interview in the talk show.

So, does that mean Richard will no longer be seen singing on TV, which he used to do on "Asap"?

"But if 'SOP' wants to get me as a guest, I will still sing," he insists.

Boob . . .

From page A31

ang tawag sa baby cow?

Contestant: Cowie?

(No, calf!)

***

Quizmaster: What city did the Berlin Wall separate?

Contestant: China!

Quizmaster: Think again?

Contestant: And in what country is Berlin?

Contestant: China!

(One-track mind!)

Tribute to Levi Celerio

AT 5 p.m. today, April 14, NAMCYA winners will interpret the songs of National Artist **Levi Celerio** at the Pasig Museum. Featured artists are baritone **Marvin Gayramon** and clarinetist **Girard Moses Villanueva**, with **Jonathan Arevalo Coo** and **Benjie Dia** as assisting artists.

Repertoire also includes **Handel**'s "Thus Saith the Lord" (from "The Messiah"), **Schubert**'s "Standchen and Aufenhalt," **Camille Saint-Saens**' "Sonata Op. 67," **Luigi Bassi**'s concert Fantasia for Rigolotto, and arias from "Barber of Seville" and "Marriage of Figaro." Call 643-7428.

AYALA MALLS ENTERTAINMENT

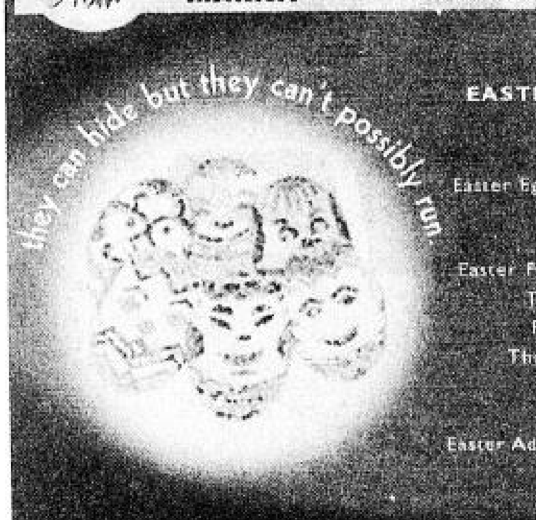
AYALA CINEMAS NOW SHOWING
YOUR 24 HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS • 729-7777
All Digital Sound

G1 (GLORIETTA 1)	G4 (GLORIETTA 4)	G4 (GLORIETTA 4)	GB1 (GREENBELT 1)	ATC (ALABANG TOWN CENTER)
1 S2PID LUV	1 ICE AGE	4 BLOW DRY	1 BEFORE NIGHT FALLS	1 SHOWTIME THX
2 HART'S WAR	2 E.T.	5 MIMIC 2	2 HART'S WAR	2 HART'S WAR
3 BLADE 2	3 HART'S WAR 12:30 pm, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS THX	6 SHOWTIME	3 SHOWTIME	3 ICE AGE
4 SHOWTIME		7 COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO	4 Onstage LANI ON SATGE APRIL 19, 20, 26 & 27 9:00 PM	4 E.T.
				5 COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

The Ayala Malls Events

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

MAKATI ALABANG CEBU


they can hide but they can't possibly run.

EASTER EGG HUNT AT THE AYALA MALLS

MAKATI
Easter Egg Fun - March 31, 1pm, Glorietta Activity Center

ALABANG
Easter Fun at the Town - March 31, 4pm, Activity Center
Town Nights, Side A: March 31, Town Plaza
Freestyle: April 4 • Southborder: April 11
Theatre Drive near Promenade Entrance, 8pm

CEBU
Easter Adventure at Cebu - March 31, 3pm, Activity Center

Ayala Malls. Because you deserve more.
Win a prize, visit www.ayalamalls.com.ph
www.ayalaland.com.ph

STARCONCERTS presents

Ogie
One Night Only

with a special performance by
Ms. Regine Velasquez

APRIL 18, THURSDAY, 9 PM
Onstage
2nd level, Greenbelt Mall, Ayala Center, Makati City

Ticket Prices P600 • P900 • P1,200
Tickets are available at all TicketWorld outlets. For inquiries and reservations call 891-5610

AYALA CINEMAS

ARTFILM - GREENBELT
Art Film
NOW SHOWING

THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR

Javier Bardem Olivier Martinez Andrea Di Stefano
Johnny Depp & Sean Penn

"'Before Night Falls' is rapturous, intoxicating filmmaking... Don't miss it! Javier Bardem gives a mesmerizing and inspired performance!"
-Rex Reed, New York Observer

"'Before Night Falls' is a potent, visually stunning masterpiece! Javier Bardem gives a riveting, emotionally naked performace."
-Guy Flatley, Interview

WINNER!
Best Male Lead, 2001 Independent Spirit Awards
Grand Jury Prize, Best Actor, 2000 Venice International Film Festival
Best Actor (Bardem), 2000 National Board of Review
Best Actor (Bardem), 2001 National Society of Film Critics

MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R) Strictly For Adults

WARNING! This film is unanimously rated R-18 for its adult thematic content which is Homosexuality and scenarios of NUDITY.

NOKIA SKYFILMS INQUIRER

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX

HART'S WAR - P 13 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00	SHOWTIME - P 13 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50	E.T. - GP 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30
COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO - P 13 11:00, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30	MIMIC 2 - P 13 12:35, 2:25, 4:15, 6:05, 7:55, 9:45	ICE AGE - GP 10:45, 12:30, 2:15, 4:00, 5:45, 7:30, 9:20

Matinee, P80, Mon.-Fri., 11:00 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.

THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL
NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1	SHOWTIME 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50 P13
CINEMA 2	E.T. 11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50 GP

Matinee: P80.00 - Screenings before 5:00pm, Monday thru Friday (Free Seating).
Reserved Seating: P120.00 - After 5:00pm; Saturday, Sunday, Holidays
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 721-0573

MUSIC MUSEUM
MUSIC MUSEUM APRIL 18, 2002 MS. GAY PHILIPPINES 9:00 PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION. PLS CALL 721-6726 OR 721-0635

NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 18 yrs.old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

EDDIE MURPHY
ROBERT DENIRO
On alert. On patrol. On camera.
SHOWTIME

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

MOWELFUND FILM INSTITUTE SUMMER WORKSHOPS

POETIC FILM WORKSHOP 2002
w/ Nick Deocampo Apr 22-Aug 16

HOLLYWOOD SCRIPTWRITING
w/ Richard Boyle May 3 - 4

Fulbright scholar at New York University, listed in "Who's Who in the 21st Century"(Cambridge, UK), "Ten Outstanding Young Persons of the World" Awardee (JCI, Japan)

Oscar Nominee for Oliver Stone's "Salvador"
Professor, San Francisco State University
Associate Professor, Univ. of Southern California and Stanford University

MOWELFUND FILM INSTITUTE
FORTHCOMING SEMINARS:
BASIC CINEMATOGRAPHY SEMINAR w/ Yam Laranas: May 2 - 21
DIRECTING SEMINAR w/ Nick Deocampo: May 6 - 17
ADVANCED CINEMATOGRAPHY SEMINAR w/ Nap Jamir: May 13 - 18
MFI, 66 Rosario Drive, Cubao, Quezon City, tels. 723 4058/7271915, fax 727-2033
Kodak SPONSORED PROGRAM

MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted
Strictly for ADULTS
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.

ROLLERBALL

Bakbakan na!

Hot movie on new 'bloodsport' from the director of 'Die Hard'

[illegible] action director John McTiernan (DIE HARD) [illegible] a hot new movie packed with head-slamming action, breakneck speed and visceral thrills, in Columbia Pictures' ROLLERBALL.

In 2005, a violent game is the world's #1 phenomenon. Watched by the entire world, Rollerball is an extreme blood sport played with motorbikes, skates, a figure 8 track, a steel ball – and no rules.

But the world's most dangerous game is about to become deadly. When serious on-court accidents bring higher viewer ratings, the players soon find themselves playing for their lives!

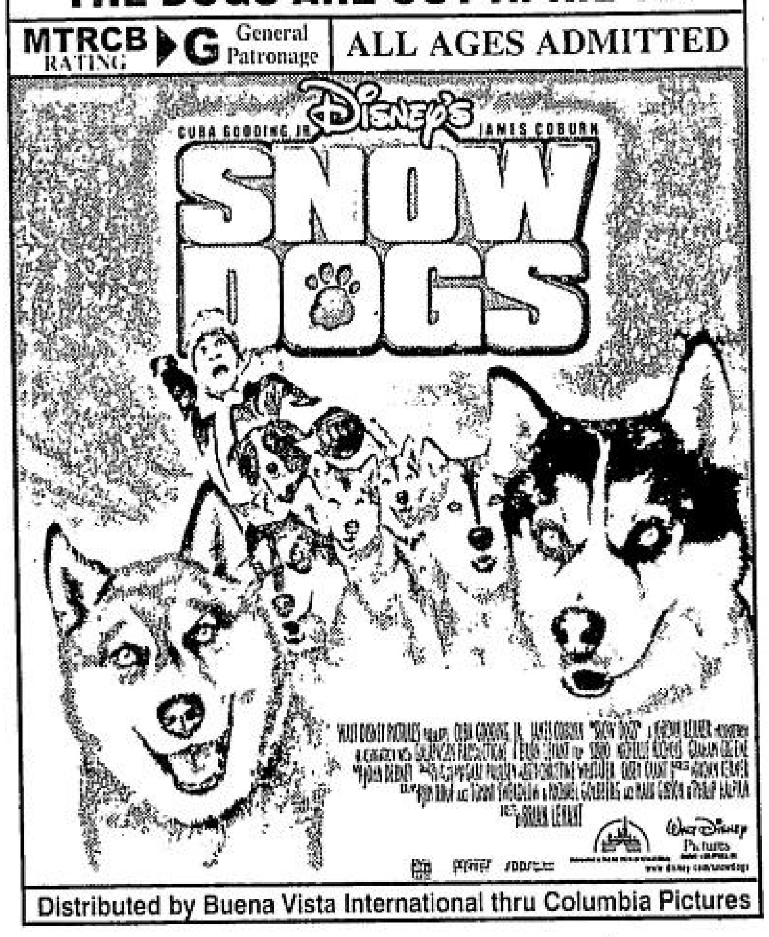
Stars Chris Klein of AMERICAN PIE, LL Cool J, and the incredibly sexy Rebecca Romijn Stamos

THE BATTLE begins APRIL 24!

RELAX & SEE A MOVIE

#1 COMEDY HIT IN THE U.S.!
THE DOGS ARE OUT APRIL 17!

MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED



Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Boob-tube booboos and quiz-show errors

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

HOST: Why did you separate from your husband?

Guest: I realized that I did not really love him.

Host: Did you love him when you accepted his proposal for you to marry him?

Guest: Not also.

Host: So, why did you agree to marry him?

Guest: He pressurized me to do it!

(*Ay*, pressurized!)

***

Host: How much did you win in the game show?

Guest: One hundred thousand pesos!

Host: How did you feel after winning all that money?

Guest: I was overthrilled!

(Over!)

***

Host: You are giving out loans?

Guest: Yes, for farmers at really the grassroots level.

Host: In particular—?

Guest: In particular, the loans are for the owners of small coconuts.

(As small as yours?)

***

Host: I hear you have a new boyfriend?

Guest: *Oo, serious na talaga ako sa kanya.*

Host: You think you'll get married to him?

Guest: Well, is only time can tell!

(*Ay*, is only!)

***

Host: Your group will have an exhibit—?

Guest: This month, toward the end of the month.

Host: Where will the art exhibit be held?

Guest: At Bahay ng Aluma in UP.

(Where?!)

***

Host: You have a new show?

Guest: Yes, it's a comedy sitcom!

(Comedy *na*, sitcom *pa*?)

***

Host: What did you have for breakfast today?

Guest: *Tinapay*.

Host: *Ano'ng palaman ng tinapay*?

Guest: Juice.

(*Palaman, hindi panulak . . .*)

***

Host: *Ilan kayo sa pamilya*?

Guest: *Ako at ang ate ko lang*.

Host: How old *ang ate mo*?

Guest: 830 years old.

(How—Biblical!)

***

Quizmaster: *Ang ubod ba ay galing sa saging*?

Contestant: *Oo*.

(*Hindi, sa* palm tree.)

***

Quizmaster: *Ano ang* quarter past two?

Constant: 2:45.

(No, 2:15.)

***

Quizmaster: *Bakit nasa riles ang tren, hindi sa kalye*?

Constant: *Kasi, baka bumunggo*.

(Huh?!)

***

Quizmaster: *Ano ang ibig sabihin ng* Ora et Labora?

Constant: Eyes of the beholder!

(No, Pray and Work!)

***

Quizmster: *Ano'ng* AC *ang* oldest Christian creed?

Contestant: Anti-Christ!

(No, Apostles' Creed!)

***

Quizmaster: *Ano*

BOOB/ A30

NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING PG-13

The stars of "Black Hawk Down" and "She's All That" are paired for the first time in this Year's Most Romantic Comedy about Love with a lot of air!

Josh Hartnett
Rachael Leigh Cook

blow dry

Solar FILMS INC.

Learn with the Masters

Week One: COMM ARTS & MANAGEMENT PLUS (April 29-May 3)

	COURSE TITLE	GURU
1.1	VIDEO AS CORPORATE AND INSTITUTIONAL IMAGING TOOL	Salvil Casino
1.2	CORP. COM. & CRISIS MGMT	Ray Junia
1.3	DESIGNING A SMASH NEWSLETTER	Lynett Villariba
1.4	EDITORIAL CARTOONING	Neil Doloricon
1.5	COURSE ON BEGINNING DIRECTORS	Noel Lim

Week Two: BROADCASTING COURSES TO BOOST YOUR CAREER (May 6-10)

2.1	HOW TO BECOME AN EFFECTIVE ON-CAM TALENT	Chichi Robles
2.2	HOW TO BE A HOT DJ/COOL VJ	"Boo Kyler"
2.3	SCRIPTING FOR TV DRAMA	
2.4	PRODUCING TV AND RADIO ADS	Giggi Garcia
2.5	DIGITAL EDITING	Avid

Week Three: ADVANCED FILM COURSES (May 13-17)

3.1	ACTING FOR CAMERA	
3.2	SCRIPTING FOR FILM FEATURE	Roy Iglesias
3.3	PRODUCTION DESIGN FOR FILM	Leo Abaya
3.4	WINNING CINEMATOGRAPHY	Boy Yñiguez
3.5	TECHNIQUES IN DIRECTING ACTORS	Jeffrey Jethurian

Intensive, hands-on, live-in training
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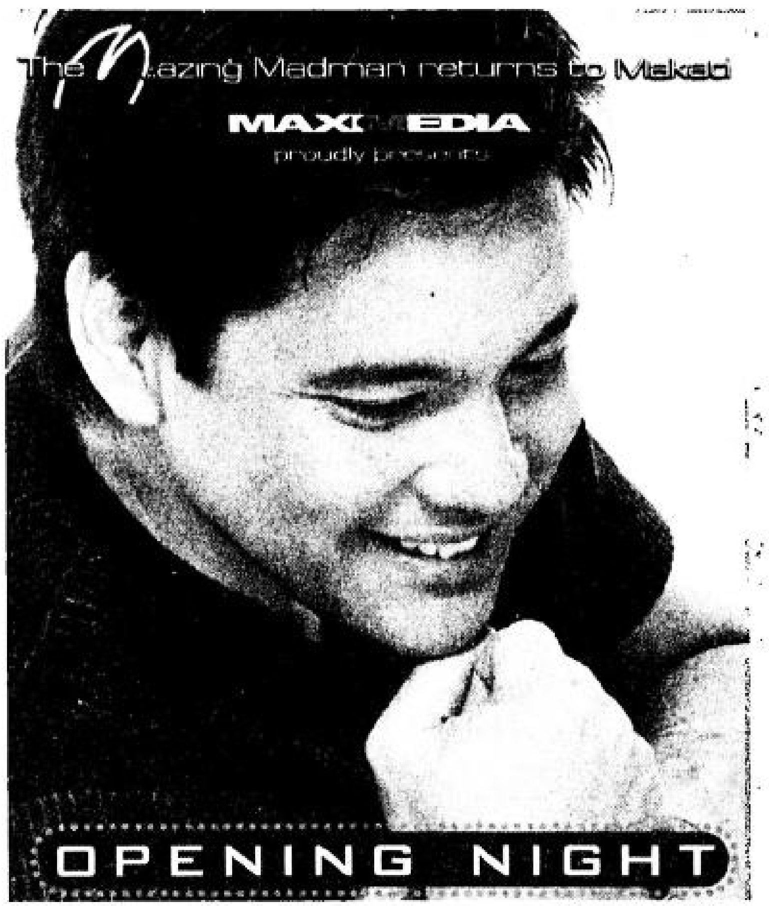

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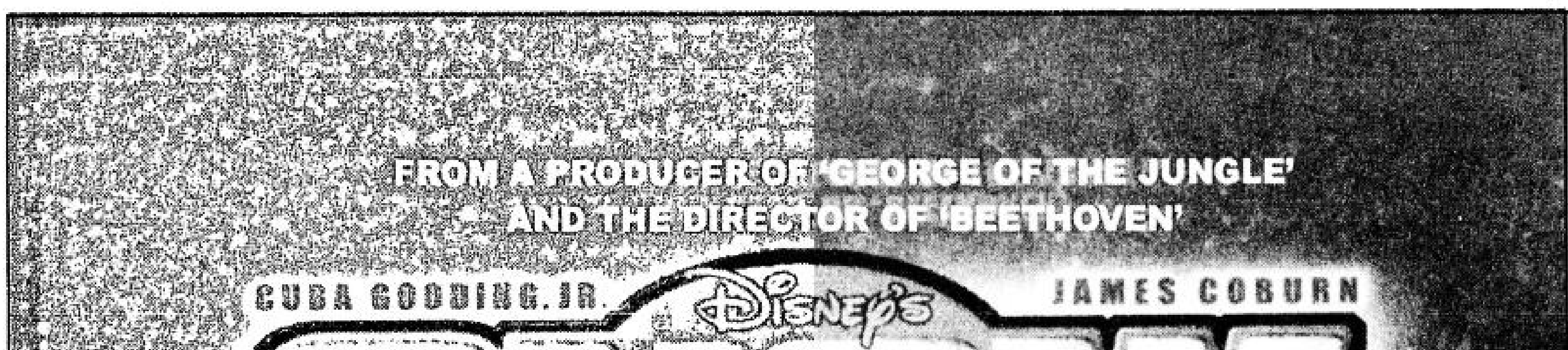

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ACTION	KEYWORD
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To enter your nickname	NICK <nickname>
To invite a friend	INVITE <celfone number>
To check your total raffle points	POINTS TXTGAMES
To allow other players to challenge you	ON
To send a message to your opponent while playing	SAY <message>
To know the rank of a player	RANK <nickname>

To play, key in PLAY <game code> and send to 238:

SMART TXTGAME	GAME CODE
BINGOTXT	BT
DECODE*	DC
GOTHELLO	GTLO
HANGMAN	HM
TIC-TAC-TOE	T3
BATTLESHIP	BS
WORDSEEK	WS

** One-player game only.*
For more instructions/commands key in **HELP <game code>** and send to 238.

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First Weekly Draw	APRIL 23, 2002	Zappy Electronic Scooter
Second Weekly Draw	APRIL 30, 2002	Zappy Electronic Scooter
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Fifth Weekly Draw	MAY 21, 2002	Zappy Electronic Scooter
Sixth Weekly Draw	MAY 28, 2002	Zappy Electronic Scooter
Seventh Weekly Draw	JUNE 4, 2002	Zappy Electronic Scooter
Eighth Weekly Draw	JUNE 11, 2002	Zappy Electronic Scooter
Ninth Weekly Draw	JUNE 18, 2002	Zappy Electronic Scooter
First Monthly Draw	MAY 14, 2002	₱25,000
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Note: Cut-off time is 12 midnight of every Sunday prior to the draw date.

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SundayBIZ
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Loyalty pays for exec: from staff to chair

JERRY Isla's ID photo in 1977.

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

WHEN Jerry S. Isla finished his accounting course at the University of the East in 1969, he went job hunting with his friends from the honors class. He, along with some UE graduates, ended up working with accounting firm Joaquin Cunanan and Co.

FIRST JOB

Little did Joaquin Cunanan know that the gangly *probinsiyano* from Nagcarlan, Laguna, whom they hired as a staff auditor, the lowest in the corporate ranking, would end up 30 years later as its chair and senior partner.

"I have not even heard of Joaquin Cunanan before we went job hunting because I was a *probinsiyano*, but I went with my friends. I was hired on my 20th birthday, Nov. 17, 1969. It was a Monday and I remember wondering what it meant that I was hired on that particular day," Isla tells SundayBiz.

Isla prefers to think that it was fate that he would end up in the profession considering that he did not even think that he would go to college at all.

The youngest of five children with an elementary school principal for a father and a Grade III teacher for a mother, Isla knew that his parents did not have enough money left over to put him through college.

1981: after he became partner of Joaquin Cunanan & Co.

JERRY Isla today, senior partner and chair of Joaquin Cunanan.

Father's hard work

His elder brothers and sister were already in college studying medicine and engineering and he thought that he would have to wait for at least one of them to finish before he could get his turn at college.

"I owe a lot to my father because he just told me that we were going to enroll in Manila. I knew that we did not have enough money but he said that all of us children should finish college. He was very dedicated and committed," Isla says.

The young Isla did not know what course to take in Manila since he thought all along that he would be left in the province. His father suggested commerce or accounting because there was one certified public accountant in Nagcarlan who seemed successful.

"We came to Manila and it was like my father who was going to school because he studied all the courses and the schedules and before I knew it I was enrolled," Isla says.

His parents worked hard to put him and his siblings to school by putting in more than their required eight hours teaching and at the same time selling slippers from Laguna to Manila.

And Isla did not disappoint his parents. He put in just as much effort in his studies as his parents did in putting him through school. He finished in the honors class and when his time came, worked diligently in Joaquin Cunanan.

He did not know what course to take as he thought he would be living in the province.

Learning from others

Isla was paid P240 a month that time and he

LOYALTY/B3

FLASHBACK

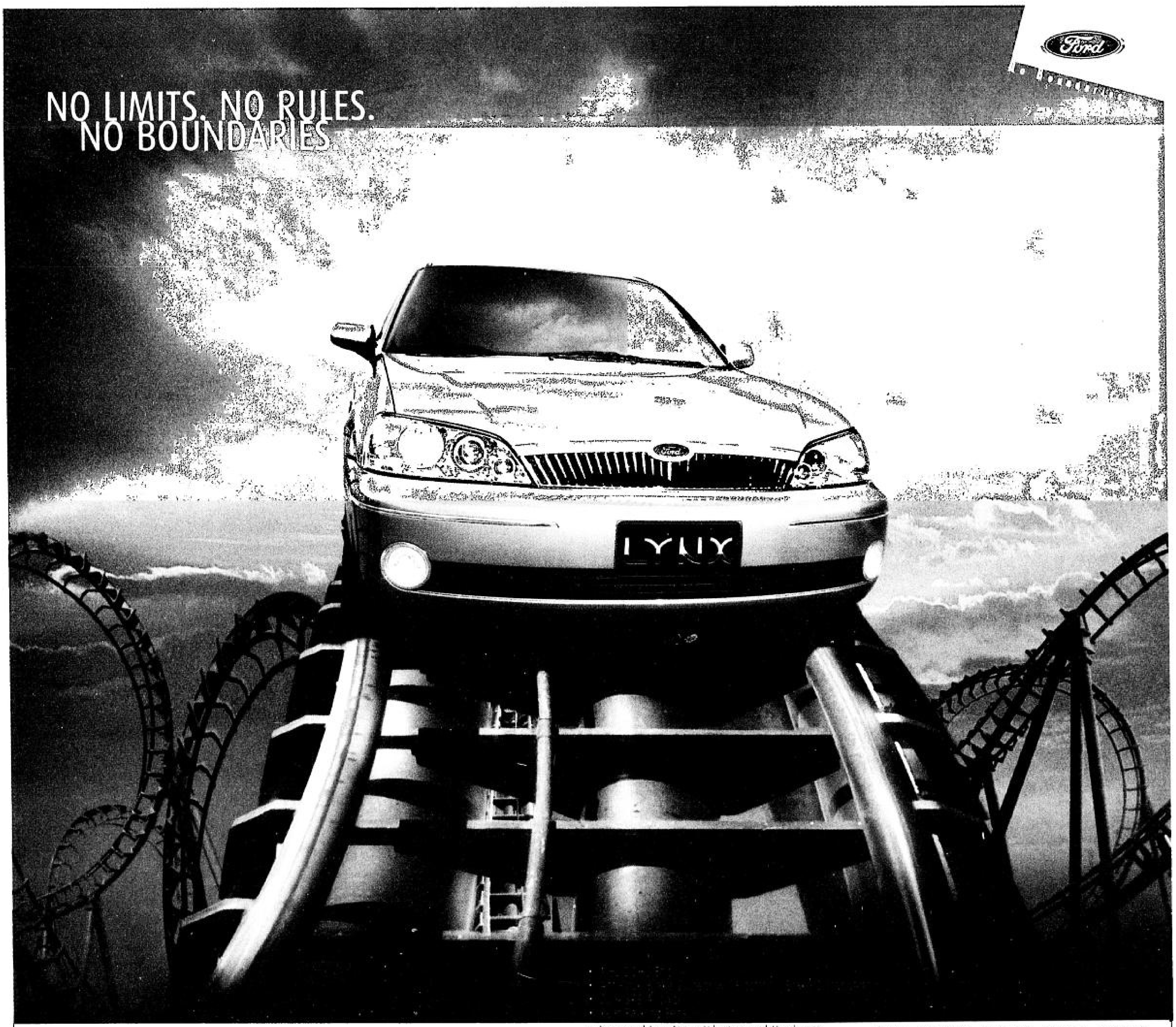
ISLA during an office party in 1982 proudly wearing his Christian Dior suit, his major investment at that time.

IN 1969, the peso depreciated against the US dollar from P2 to $1 to P4 to $1. Jerry Isla spent 10 centavos for fare from his apartment in Sampaloc to the Joaquin Cunanan office near Mabini Street.

The Beatles dominated the airwaves and the youth's idea of a good time was to treat themselves to A & W.

There were hardly any ready-to-wear clothes, so professionals went to their tailors and to shoemakers like Glenmore, Camara and Sanchez for made-to-order shoes.

There was also great demand for greasy gels and Tancho pomade.



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It pays to set sights on vision

By Amelita R. Remo

STATE of the art technology in the medical field has given rise to lucrative businesses.

IT SEEMS impossible and ironic that a third world country could teach a first world country the latest in laser eye surgery technology and ophthalmology.

But the American Eye Center, the pioneer in the full-service, diagnostic and one-stop therapeutic eye facility in the country, proved it could be done.

Located at the fifth floor of the Shangri-La mall, Edsa, the American Eye Center offers diagnosis and treatment for errors of refraction, cataract, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy.

It started its operations in 1995 through a professional partnership between the American Laser Vision and the Associated Eye Specialists.

The Associated Eye Specialists originally consisted of Dr. Jack Arroyo, then active consultant in refractive surgery at the Medical City and Makati Medical City, and Geronimo Velasco, a businessman who happened to be a patient of Dr. Arroyo.

"Serendipity actually brought us all together because ALV called each of us separately, but we all happened to know one another," Arroyo recalls. "They were looking for strategic partners for an eye center that could help gather data for further studies on this new technology."

Others who were also tapped included Jose Ong of Maria Teresa Commercial, a supplier of optical lenses for glasses, and Gil Divina Gracia, owner of The Optical Shop chain.

This Filipino group, however, bought out the American partnership in 1997, making it an all-Filipino company under the name of American Eye Correction Center Inc.

Additional partners were taken, each a subspecialist in the different fields of ophthalmology. Ramon Cojuanco Jr., Arroyo, Velasco, Ong and Divina-Gracia remained as shareholders.

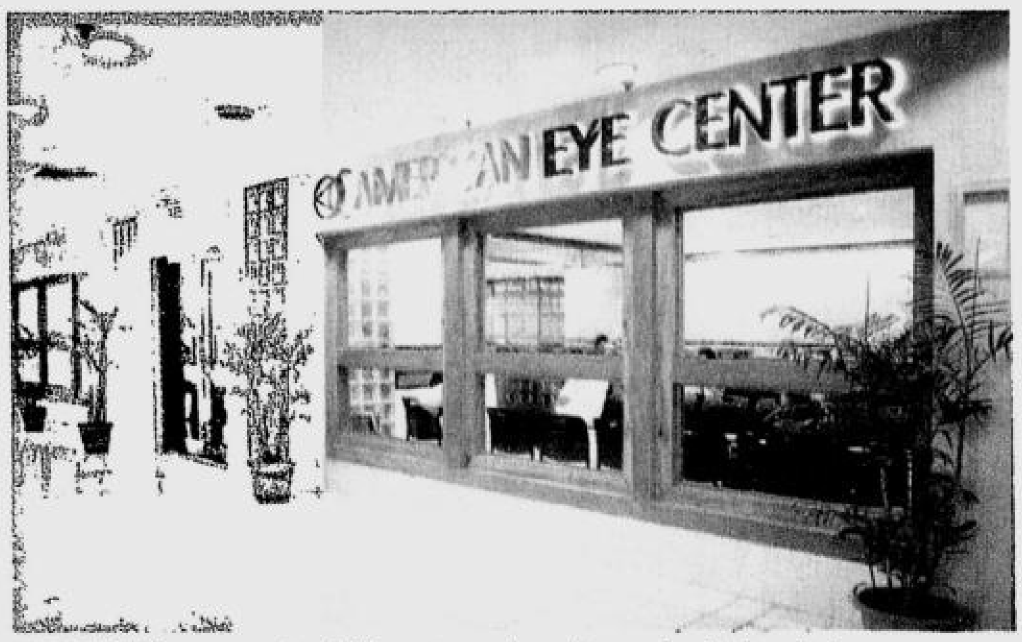
The group actually made doctors into business partners, each of whom is able to contribute to the company's earnings.

Other medical practitioners have formed such groups—ususally gathering several specialists under one clinic so that they can provide for the needs of a wider range of clientele.

Being the pioneer

The American Eye Center was the first to significantly contribute clinical experience to the Americans when it introduced the Excimer laser surgery in the country.

The Excimer laser is a computer-controlled cold laser that allows precise removal of corneal tissue.



THE CENTER's start was coupled by controversies on its use of medical marketing.

Excimer laser surgery using LadarVision is performed on an outpatient basis. The procedure is virtually painless and takes about seven minutes per eye. The patient is fully awake the entire time.

Nearsighted, farsighted and astigmatic persons will benefit most from this procedure, particularly those who are allergic to contact lenses or simply weary of their dependence on glasses and contact lenses.

LadarVision is surprisingly affordable, around P25,000 per eye, especially when offset against the total expense of maintaining and replacing eyeglasses and contact lenses over a lifetime.

Since the Philippines does not require government approval for using the laser system, American Eye center was able to bring in the new technology and conduct further studies before the system was finally approved in the United States.

"We became the source for medical data, which the US companies used for the eventual FDA approval of the Excimer Laser," Arroyo explains. "We teach them its use and applications."

The American Eye Center was the first to perform the Excimer laser in the country. It was also the first in Asia to perform laser surgery called Lasik, a surgical technique where a machine is used to fashion the flap of cornea with the use of an Excimer laser to treat errors in refraction.

Another notable achievement was the development of new surgical techniques in refractive surgery, which has been recognized by the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and adapted by the American College of Eye Surgeons.

The center also made use of Medical Marketing, the first time it was done in the country, to create awareness about this new technology.

Print advertisements, press releases, talk shows and seminars were held to market the new technology and to disseminate its usefulness and efficacy.

Difficulties

Being the pioneer, however, does not only have advantages, but drawbacks as well.

Despite the state-of-the-art technology and facilities, the American Eye Center's start was coupled by controversies, especially with on use of Medical Marketing, which others thought to be as unethical.

Another was its use of a new technology that hasn't even been tested yet by US doctors.

The American Eye Center, however, took this all in a stride.

"It is natural that when you do not conform with the norm, people would initially question your moves. It's up to you to prove them wrong," says Arroyo.

True enough, the American Eye Center continues to be successful even after seven years of service. It serves 80 to 100 patients a day, both on appointments and walk-ins.

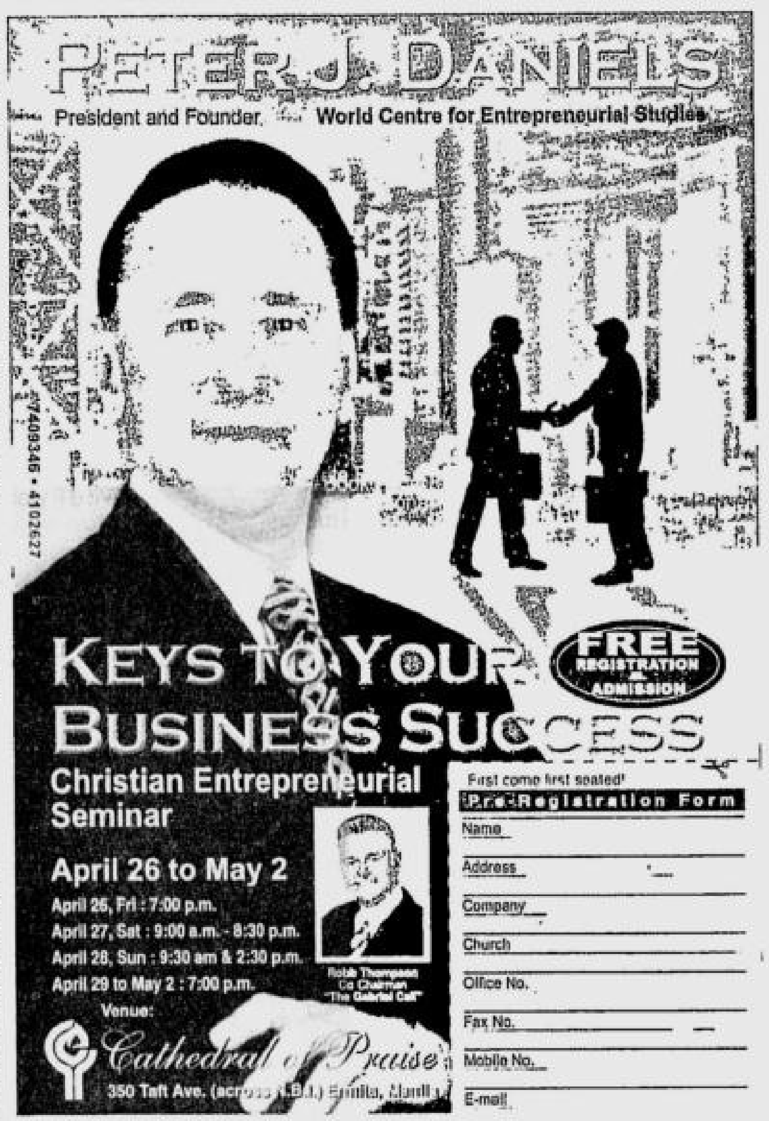
One reason for its success is the broad and rich clinical experience of its doctors. Surgery is a learned and acquired skill, and proficiency comes from the volume of experience, Arroyo explains.

To date, the center has performed the most number of surgeries, around 15,000 laser procedures for the past years. It also ranks as the seventh leading eye center in the world which performs these surgeries.

"The best marketing tool is a happy patient," Arroyo remarks. "When people are satisfied with your service, they recommend you to other people. That's how our business grew—through word of mouth."

The center also conveniently brings under one roof nine eye MDs from the Associated Eye Specialists, each with his or her own specific area of expertise.

Moreover, the American Eye Center is strategically located so patients may stroll along the mall, visiting its shops to pass the time while waiting for test results.



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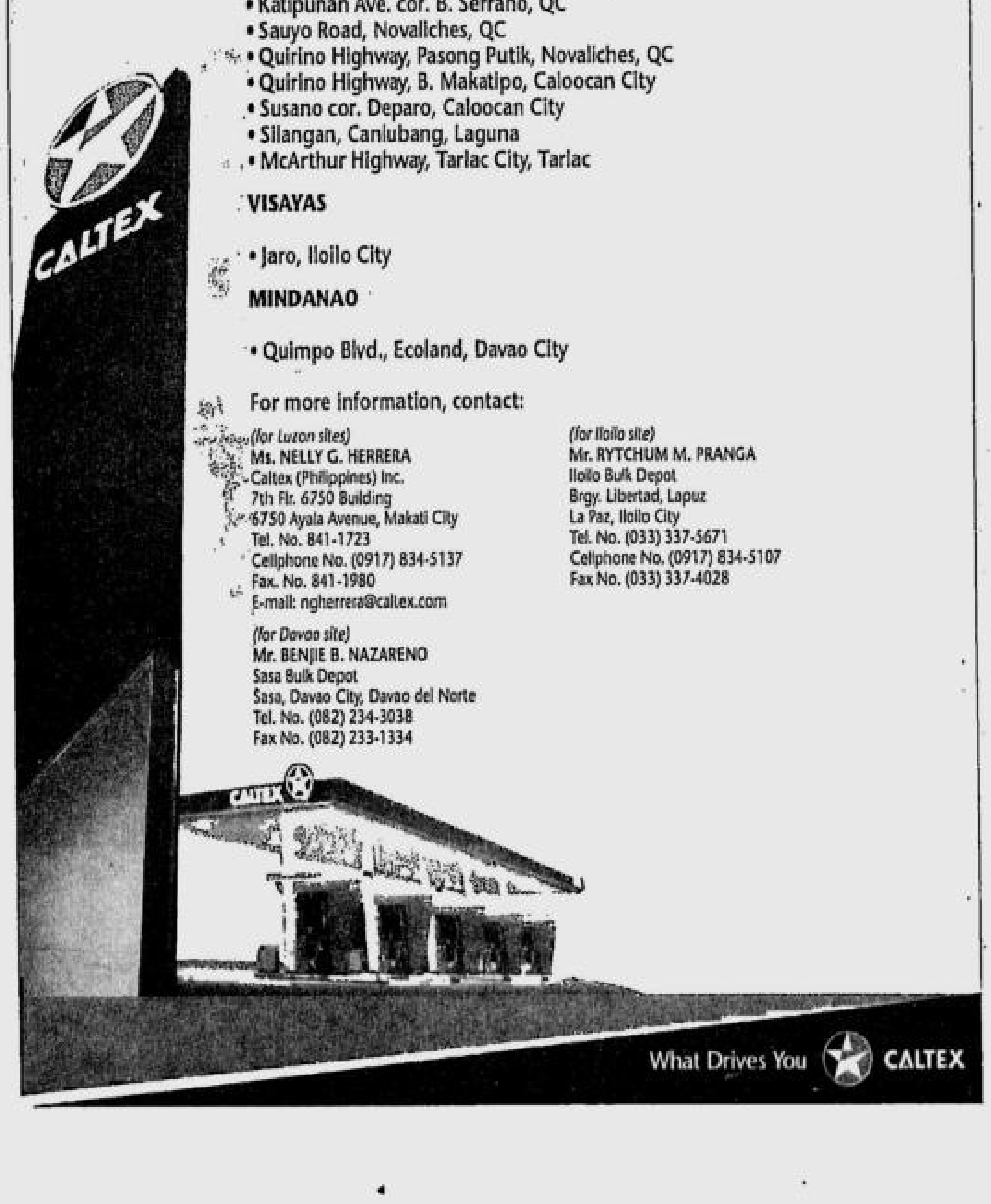

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What Drives You CALTEX

Loyalty pays for exec: from staff…

From page B1

remembered giving some of the money to his mother (who used it to sponsor a Mass). He spent the rest of it on his clothes since he needed to wear more than just one decent shirt, pants and shoes to the office.

Joaquin Cunanan was a pleasant place to work in, he says, especially in 1969 when the firm was still small with less than 100 employees. He describes it as one big happy family where everyone watched out for each other.

But the work was far from being fun and games. It involved hours of audit and accounting work and Isla learned early on that he cannot rely just on what he learned in college to see him through work.

"I found out that I needed to learn a lot more to do the job and I relied on the guidance of the older people at the firm to help me," he says.

Isla was not one to be afraid to ask questions and he realized that people are almost always willing to share what they knew. Combining his knowledge, drive and propensity for hard and honest work with the wisdom of the elders, he moved quickly from a staff auditor in 1969 to a partner barely more than 10 years later.

Being a partner is a goal in any accounting or law firm as it means that you now own part of the company. You are no longer an employee but a part owner of the assets, liabilities and more importantly, the responsibilities.

"I was so afraid when they told me that I would be made partner but I was excited at the same time. I was initially daunted by the responsibilities but I did it. It seems overwhelming because to be a partner was never part of my goals when I started working," he explains.

Big test

But once he realized his responsibilities, he went headlong just as he handled all responsibilities in his life, with dedication, commitment and integrity.

These qualities were put to the test when his wife Nieva gave birth to their third and youngest child, Melissa, prematurely in 1981.

"It was a test for me because she was a special child. She weighed just over a pound because she came out when my wife was just seven months pregnant. Other people who looked at her in the nursery said that she looked like a kitten," Isla says.

Many did not think that Melissa would live but Isla almost willed her to live and she did even when the respirator was removed. His spirits lift whenever he remembered his father and how he struggled in life.

Isla felt that his father would have done much more if he were faced with the same situation.

"I told her that she would live. I will see to it, with or without money. At that time I still did not have a lot because I was just a year into the partnership. I spent over P100,000 at that time which was a lot," he says.

Isla adds that it was really a struggle to accept that she is not a regular child but when the family finally did, he felt like a big burden was lifted from his shoulders and those of his wife Nieva, eldest son Erwin and eldest daughter Clarissa.

"She is our angel. She is really a very sweet lady and I know that in our old age, she will be with us. She became my inspiration to work even harder," Isla says.

Hard work definitely pays off.

Senior partner

In over 30 years as partner, he was involved in special and investigative audits led by the Securities and Exchange Commission of financially distressed companies, privatization of government-owned and operated companies, initial public offerings, structuring acquisition transactions, finance raising and research on the operation of international gateway facilities.

Along the way he picked up a master's degree in Business Administration from the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila, and entered the Executive Business School of the University of Western Ontario, Canada.

And just as he relied on his elders' counsel when he was not yet partner, he continued to do so when he was made partner and eventually senior partner.

He got the plum post when longtime chair Corazon de la Paz retired from Joaquin Cunanan and then accepted the post as head of the Social Security System.

As chair, he is responsible for planning and setting directions for Joaquin Cunanan, a member of the PricewaterhouseCoopers group and the second largest accounting firm in the Philippines.

"I learned a lot from the people who came before me especially from Cora who was senior partner for more than 20 years. She taught me a lot including grammar," he says.

He applied what he learned from other people and he readily transformed himself according to what was required at that time.

'Probinsiyano' at heart

"I am really a *probinsiyano* at heart but because of circumstances I had to change. I believe it is important to be able to reinvent yourself to suit to the circumstances," Isla says.

Reinventing, however, does not mean losing sight of a person's true self, Isla stresses. "You must just be yourself. They say that I am calm and cool despite mounting pressures at work. I think it is because I prefer to use my time and efforts in finding solutions rather than just being angry. It is a waste of energy," he says.

Isla adds that it pays to remain humble but at the same time aggressive enough to show people that you know what you are doing and that you can be relied upon.

"You must show people your value, not by telling them but by doing your job well. If you do it well, they would know," Isla says.

He says he feels fortunate because Joaquin Cunanan is full of people who do their jobs well, and he knows that many of them would end up better than him.

"I would like to be known as someone who was able to develop young partners. It is like an improvement of the race. I believe that knowledge is to be shared and if you do, you improve your value," Isla says.

Filipino products excel at local trade fair

A BATH soap came out the most fragrant, while a bamboo handicraft stood the tallest among hundreds of products exhibited at the recently concluded Technology and Livelihood Resource Center (TLRC) Trade Fair 2002. The two products were judged the most outstanding products of the fair.

The Daila Dome Soap, manufactured by the Daila Herbal Community Enterprises, bagged Product of the Fair award. On the other hand, the Palawan Technology and Livelihood Development Center (TLDC) bamboo handicraft décor, a living room ornament that stimulates the sound of the rain, won in another category as the Best TLDC Product, dwarfing entries submitted from other regions.

The exhibit was organized by the TLRC to assist its beneficiaries nationwide in marketing their products and facilitating the exchange of technology and livelihood ideas in the country and as a major activity of its Silver Anniversary celebrations.

Businesswoman Aleli Pansacola, who is a participant of TLRC seminars, was ecstatic upon realizing that she had just won her first Filipino award. Pansacola had previously been given international citations for her other herbal soap products. The Pasig entrepreneur owns Daila Herbal Community Enterprises, manufacturer of Victoria Herbal Detergent Soap, a many-time winner in product exhibitions abroad.

"I am happy we have won our first Filipino award," enthuses Pansacola. She points out that her product, which was originally developed and packaged for the Christmas season, stood out for a number of reasons. One, she says, the soap passes safety standards, having been made of purely essential oils.

Second, the dome-shaped soap was attractively packaged with a multipurpose wooden soap dish. The soap and the dish were elegantly wrapped in a strikingly colorful ribbon, making it a perfect gift for Christmas. The soap is available in different fruit extracts, including papaya and avocado.

Pansacola started her soap making business after she joined TLRC seminars sometime in the 1980s. She was a lecturer at TLRC but stopped when her business grew. Her herbal soaps are now distributed in leading supermarkets in many parts of the country.

For his part, Ramon Gonzales Jr. of Palawan TLDC says that he was elated upon learning that the winner for Best TLDC Product comes from his province. "I'm proud of what we have accomplished," beams Gonzales as he playfully demonstrates to customers how the bamboo product is used. "*Simple lang ito*. Basically, it's a home décor, which creates the sound of the rain when turned upside down."

Made of bamboo stuffed with crushed shells inside, the product was developed by the Palawan TLDC beneficiaries after getting inspiration from the local tribes who used the sound-making instrument for their dry season rituals. "The manufacturers copied the idea and improved it by introducing artistic designs. They, then, packaged it as a home décor that can also be used as a musical instrument," Gonzales further reveals.

With the people constantly lured by its unique sound, the bamboo décor became one of the most popular products in the exhibit. Gonzales says the product was well received by people who came to visit their booth. Many were amused by it that they bought some for souvenirs, including visiting government officials from

FILIPINO/B6

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Local inventors go corporate

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

BAGUIO CITY—You will need a generous dose of humor and full confidence to sell an "air-conditioned summer hat" to global sports apparel company Nike or an untested "perpetual energy plant" to the state-run National Power Corp. (Napocor).

Roland Labador, manager of the XQ Products and Ideas Co. here, is lucky as he had both, in spades.

He said he even had to keep his jaw locked firmly in place when Nike representatives first asked him in 2000 if he could manufacture a million hats a month.

"Nike did not place any order yet. They just wanted to find out if we could supply them, and I could not really tell them our company was built on no more than P50,000 in investments. I wanted to look stern and in control when all I really wanted to do was giggle. Mostly, at myself," Labador, 39, said in Filipino.

But Labador's summer hats have become more than just a quirky idea.

In fact, the hats have been popular attractions in Baguio and in Boracay for the past two years. Crafted from an original Styrofoam prototype, the hats are made from round soft rubber materials with perforations encircling a central pad. This top pad becomes the crown of the hat when it is pushed up.

ROLAND Labador shows off his gallery of commercial inventions.

When worn, the perforations expand into open-air vents around the hat's crown.

"It's instant air-conditioning so your head won't sweat that badly" Labador said.

These hats earn Labador and XQ partner Albert Quegue, 46, up to P200,000 from orders placed by local universities or clubs during the peak season.

The summer hats surface during beach festivals and during the annual parade of the Baguio Flower Festival or Panagbenga in February.

Labador said the success of such "crackpot ideas," like the summer hats, was enough proof that "mad scientists" like themselves can carve a profitable niche in Philippine business.

Labador and Quegue formed XQ in 2000, partly as a reaction to the government's inability to subsidize Filipino inventions.

Quegue said government has not focused on the potentials of research and development, a reason why it was unable to encourage breakthroughs in economics and in business.

XQ is perhaps the only surviving inventions-marketing firm among a dozen companies, which failed to penetrate the market here from 1972 to 1999.

The firm's claim to fame these days is a "perpetual power plant," which is being developed in joint venture with the Canadian-led Global Equities Markets Group (GEMG) for sale to China.

It was introduced to, and unfortunately ignored by, former President Fidel Ramos. But XQ and the GEMG subsidiary company, Self-Energizing Power Plant Inc. (Seppi), is now offering to test it for Napocor at the 75-megawatt Ambuklao hydroelectric power plant in Benguet.

The subject of an earlier INQUIRER report, the plant is powered in theory by a combination of spring-coiled kinetic energy and magnetism.

A former marketing official of the Vitarich Group of Companies, Quegue also isolated the protein compounds of chicken feathers, which can supply huge quantities of cheap organic fertilizer for farms.

Currently being tested in a Baguio farm, the "hydrolyzed chicken feathers" project that Quegue refers to as his "ammobine," is being marketed as a gelatin farm substitute for poor farmers.

These are but some of the company's "menagerie of ideas."

On their backburners are "retractable pots"—plastic cases for tree saplings that are about 0.5 millimeters thin, which XQ plans to sell to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as effective zero-waste equipment.

Labador is also marketing a set of "Swiss knife-inspired" carpentry and farm tools—only in XQ's version, a hammer-axe-pliers combination is fixed firmly in a single handle bar. Ditto for a foldable spade-and-pitchfork set.

A MODEL shows off XQ's summer hats. PHOTOS BY EV ESPIRITU

"I am not the only inventor in town. There are dozens, all members of the Cordillera Inventors Association of the Philippines, but we all belong to the disenfranchised. No one takes us seriously. Not even the government," Labador said.

"Many other inventors have taken the road of building companies so they can sell themselves. But it takes an enormous amount of patience and marketing ability to survive (the rat race)," Labador explained.

XQ's inspiration is not even Bill Gates, founder of the information technology giant, Microsoft.

Labador, a former economics student of the University of the Philippines College Baguio (UPCB), often talks about a deceased Igorot inventor named Ingkong Paleng, whose tales of success and celebrity woes in these parts set the course for other local inventors to go corporate.

Paleng, inventors in Benguet recall, is legendary for developing the "Rainbird" in 1948. The "Rainbird" is a bamboo irrigation regulator that inventors here believe was the prototype for the sprinkler systems now used commercially around the world.

"The story was Paleng invented it to irrigate his fields, and then sold its rights to some foreigners. He built a small firm out of his sale and produced other inventions. But he never got credit for the Rainbird. That's how the story goes. I don't really know for a fact if it is genuine, but Paleng was a very resourceful inventor and a dreamer. I grew to admire him," Labador said.

Labador was himself a dreamer in high school, building "marine life shelters" for pond fishes that were included in high school science fairs.

Labador said he never won a single award for his small experiments, but he did persevere to finally hit pay dirt with his summer hats.

Shoplifters are getting bolder; shops need to beef up security

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THE LIBERALIZATION of the Philippine retail industry has dramatically increased the level of competition in the market. With more choices in the market, retailers have been pressured to bring down their margins and keep costs at a minimum to remain competitive.

With thinner spreads and a more competitive environment, a loss of 2 to 4 percent due to pilferage takes on greater significance and it is this problem that Philippine retailers are faced with these days.

Alegria Limjoco, chair of the Philippine Retailers Association, told SundayBiz that the PRA has embarked on an awareness campaign to help retailers bring down their shrinkage rates by either investing in security equipment or just keeping a trained eye on possible lapses in security.

"We have materials that show retailers the different techniques employed by crafty individuals to steal from their stores. We also have retail management classes at different schools and we conduct seminars on loss prevention. We at PRA believe that prevention should be stressed rather than cure," Limjoco explained.

Limjoco added that retail shop owners were taught to strengthen their internal security systems as available data showed that as much as 70 percent of theft were done by insiders, and only 30 percent by thieves or by syndicates.

"We estimate that losses are equivalent to between one and 3 percent of total sales, which may seem small but is already quite big if you look at the entire industry," Limjoco said.

Department stores' losses were estimated at a higher range of between 2 and 4 percent, and at least 5 percent for the lower-end retail shops.

Despite the significant losses, the PRA lamented the fact that many retail owners have not taken serious steps to curb shoplifting or internal pilferage, preferring to just add the losses to their costs.

This is one reason why most of the local retail shops, including the large malls, do not have enough electronic surveillance systems such as close circuit televisions or point-of-sale monitoring systems, or even a simple scanner to alert the store if an unpaid item left the store.

Locker rooms do not have locks, allowing unscrupulous individuals to fit two or three items and then return only one item. They leave the store wearing either one or even two unpaid pants or shirts under their own clothes.

In a supermarket, there were instances when the cashier and the bagger of the groceries connived so that the third party leaves the supermarket paying for only part of what they actually got from the supermarket.

The PRA studies on the local market revealed that shoplifting has become a way of life for syndicates. The same groups of shoplifters that target one mall would simply go to the next mall and do the same thing.

If they are caught, the PRA said that they are just asked to pay 10 times the value of what they stole and are let go. Most retail owners do not want to go through the process of putting them to jail as it is a long and potentially expensive endeavor.

There are different ways of stealing, and the PRA tries to make the retail owners aware of these modus operandi to keep them on their toes.

There are, however, many progressive retail outfits in Metro Manila that have decided to take shrinkage problems seriously and were willing to pay good money for surveillance systems and internal security.

Leather Collection

Leather Collection is a wholly owned Philippine company that has specialized in leather goods. Over the 11 years since it has started operations, it has grown to capture as much as 80 percent of the corporate leather goods gift market.

Leather Collection has put up two retail outlets at the SM Megamall, one of the country's largest malls, and Greenbelt, an upscale mall located in the Makati central business district, and security was one of the primary concerns.

THE LEATHER Collection's stalls are equipped with modern alarm systems.

Yolanda Sevilla, executive director of Leather Collection, said in an interview that the Megamall store was equipped with an alarm system that goes off when larger items are taken out with the security tags intact.

"Theoretically, this would create enough noise to alert the roving mall security guards and rattle the thief. No such system is in place in our kiosk in Greenbelt, although the latter is located within sight of the mall security guard," Sevilla explained.

AVID invested in security as it sells electronics.

As for internal security, Sevilla said Leather Collection has a strict audit/physical inventory system to check against discrepancies in actual stock and inventory.

"If the missing stock had not previously been reported as stolen, they are assumed to be reflective of in-house pilferage or theft. The cost is borne by store employees and divided equally among them. This way, they help keep each other honest," Sevilla said.

She admitted that Leather Collection also suffers from external theft, but they have kept it to a minimum by teaching the staff to be alert to forestall theft or shoplifting.

"We also normally beef up our store personnel when we expect a crowd such as during mall-wide sales or special in-store sales," she added.

It also helps, she said, that the retail outlets are not very large. The Megamall store stands on only 24 square meters and the Greenbelt has less than 20 square meters. The factore stores are 100 square meters each.

Avid

Avid Sales COrp. owns several store chains engaged in the marketing of consumer products and electrical appliances. Its brands include Avid Sony Shop, AV Surfer Digital Products Shop, Call Audio-Video Shop, Aiwa Showroom, Best Brands Appliance Center and Beyond Digital Lifestyle Corp.

It is affiliated with Solid Corp., which was the exclusive distributor of Sony products in the Philippines before becoming part owner of the new joint venture marketing company, Sony Philippines Inc.

Being branded consumer electronics products, its products are expensive and the loss of even one product could seriously set back the store's operations, thus, security is a paramount concern, according to Avid general manager Marcial A. Balgos.

"Most of our outlets have sensors at the door which go off when an unpaid item leaves the door. We have a soft tag with an antennae and a hard tag, a plastic label attached to the product," Balgos said.

Avid immediately conducts investigations, he said, if the store loses an item but was not reported as stolen.

"Yes, we do have cases of shoplifting and we have lost some units of VCDs, VHS players and sometimes even digital cameras especially because our stores are interactive wherein the customers can actually touch and use the product before buying them. But we try to keep it to a minimum," Balgos explained.

Avid also checks against internal theft by keeping a sophisticated computer system that tracks the movements of products from the warehouses to the outlets. These systems tie up the levels of inventory and sales to see if there are any discrepancies.

"We have daily reports of these movements and we conduct random checks just to keep people alert, but I believe that vigilance is still the key. We train people to be security minded and to have a nice attitude and an ounce of suspicion," Balgos said.

Tiwi earthenware fights for survival

From page B8

centuries are nearest to the Lagonoy Gulf, which used to be one of the richest sources of various tuna species and other commercial fish.

For another, because these villages are where the best potter's clay is in abundant supply.

The days of *parao* trading are best remembered by them as the golden age of both fishing and pottery industry.

The *parao*, according to Torrente, was a tiny ocean-going wooden-hulled twin-masted sailboat measuring only some 16 meters.

The *parao* is normally so loaded with an average of some 12,000 pieces of earthen products and provisions that the lapping waves are but inches below the boat's rim.

Torrente recalled that he used to be in one of those boats when he was younger.

He said that in those days, scores of these vessels would leave their villages by the end of the tuna fishing season in March with destinations as far north as the Ilocos and Cagayan regions and the Visayas and Mindanao in the south.

They returned before the monsoon rains arrived in August which, in Bicol region, is also the typhoon season.

He said modernization in transportation and household finally caught up and overtook the *parao* trade.

Cheaper mass-produced metal and plastic alternatives have practically replaced every item in their inventory from toys to functional household items.

The last of the *paraos* set sail on the inter-island trade run sometime in the mid-'70s. Then they were gone for good.

Local tuna fishermen have since switched to the bigger and faster motorized boats.

This not only meant the inevitable end of a seafaring tradition where excellent navigational skills were transferred from father to son.

It might also mean the demise of the industry closest to their hearts unless some things are done to make it competitive in the modern setting dictated by technology, big investments and tough marketing.

Tough choice

Torrente shares this nagging fear with his younger brother Hector.

The younger Torrente said that with the crude materials and processes, which his village mates tenaciously stick to, they have no chance for survival.

"We have never tried to bring our craft from the terra cotta stage to the higher level of the art, like glazing, and higher investment," he said.

"The only way to stay save this industry is to modernize, catch up with technology, and devise an aggressive marketing strategy," said Torrente, one of three apprentice-workers undergoing design and production training at a government-sponsored center for ceramics in his village.

He said that Philceramics, a government-sponsored center for prototype designs and production run by the Department of Trade and Industry, is small but it offers a viable alternative for survival.

Some prototype designs made at the center in limited numbers are gaining popularity and being snapped up by willing buyers and guests.

"I realize that leaving behind a whole system where we are confident and comfortable with and embracing something as foreign as another language, is a tough choice to make for most of us," he said.

Fishing, as an alternative livelihood, has not been as productive because of the continually dwindling catch due to illegal poaching by trawlers, blast fishing and the increasing industrial pollution.

Already some of the youth in those villages, according to Torrente, have either sought a more secure future in the professions, or sought employment elsewhere.

But both bothers are hopeful that in time something will be done to save the craft and livelihood they wish their children, like Ian Completo, will inherit.

CRAFTSMEN prepare their pots for tempering in an open fire.

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Luxury shoppers pass up flash for comfort

NEW YORK—Luxury lovers, take heed: In the post-Sept. 11, post-Nasdaq-boom world of American wealth, comfort is in, but excess is out.

High rollers are still buying expensive homes and cars without batting an eyelid, analysts say, but they are giving pause before picking up top-of-the-line jewelry or fashions.

"It's not that the luxury industry is closing down—rich people will always have money. It's just a question of where they spend it," said Howard Davidowitz, chair of the Davidowitz & Associates retail consulting firm.

While home prices have continued to rise, the evidence of a downturn comes in the form of tough times for those who sell pricey discretionary items—like watches and jewelry.

"People still have plenty of wealth but I do think there are less celebratory things," said Davidowitz. "There are less parties."

Even before September's attacks, investors had lost more than $1 trillion wealth in the US stock market. But the trauma of those attacks may have pushed the wealthy to put more of their expendable income into home comforts—and less into baubles, experts said.

World-famous brands like Louis Vuitton, Moet Hennessy, Gucci Group, and Neiman Marcus Group Inc. posted their worst year in recent memory in 2001 due to their exposure to consumer shocks.

As the economy starts to recover, however, home builders, car makers and top-line appliance retailers, are likely to cash in well ahead of shops carrying the hottest designer labels, retails consultants say.

Rethinking frivolity

The economy was already teetering when the tech bubble started to go bust in March 2000. But the conspicuous consumption didn't change until the deadly attacks that leveled the World Trade Center and badly damaged the Pentagon.

"It has been a very sharp reality check," said Candace Corlett, partner at New York's WSL Strategic Retail consultants. "People had this great feeling of being rich when their stocks were doing well. They're not feeling rich anymore, far from it."

The result? Shoppers have turned to less pricey, more practical retailers, known in the industry as "bridge lines"—halfway between wholesale and luxury.

Instead of buying a Prada handbag for $900, many highbrow consumers are opting for a $250 bag from Coach.

"People are thinking, 'I can have quality fashion without spending heaps of money,'" Corlett said, adding shops like Coach Inc., Ann Taylor or Club Monaco were most likely to cash in from this shift.

The same is true in home furnishings, where she said Bed Bath & Beyond Inc., Crate & Barrel and the Pottery Barn are reeling in profits at the potential expense of higher-end shops like Armani Casa or Ralph Lauren Home.

In some corners, however, the high end is booming.

Multimillion-dollar New York homes and condos are selling like hot cakes, Davidowitz said.

Sales of high-end Jaguar and Land Rovers vehicles rocketed in March, Ford Motor Co. said. Jaguar sales shot up 86.7 percent after the introduction of a new "X-type" model, while overall car sales fell slightly.

Top-line dishwashers, ovens and refrigerators also exceeded sales targets at Whirlpool Corp. this winter.

Some analysts said the rich are buying homes or cars as an alternative to investing in the more volatile stock and bonds markets. But others blamed the shift in tastes on a consumer preference for higher-quality goods and away from the frivolous purchases of the past—a shift in attitudes, not economics.

"In the '90s, consumers bought flashy, gaudy looks which went out of style quickly, and less attention was paid to how the product worked or stood the test of time," said Mintel International Group analyst Bryan Roberts in a recent report.

"Now retailers are seeing more investing in traditional products that will become future heirlooms, and buyers are more interested in quality names."

Luxury sector tones itself down

Luxury goods makers have changed their tack to woo back their rattled customers, said marketing professor Bernd Schmitt of the Columbia Business School.

"Any sort of negative or weird sort of imagery is gone," Schmitt

LUXURY/B7

Fat profits elude obesity drug makers

LONDON—A pill to stop you from getting fat is an enticing prospect for couch potatoes and drug companies alike.

With more than 300 million people around the world affected, obesity is the Western world's fastest-growing health problem and one of the hottest areas of pharmaceutical research.

But despite the multibillion-dollar prize, producing effective treatments for a condition that can cause diabetes and heart disease is proving a long, difficult and risky business.

Abbott Laboratories Inc. became the latest firm to hit trouble last month when its Reductil drug was withdrawn in Italy on safety grounds and the consumer group Public Citizen called for a ban in the United States, where it is sold as Meridia.

Critics link the drug to at least 33 deaths in the United States and Europe. Abbott says there is no evidence to connect its product with the deaths and insists it is safe.

The row has done nothing to reassure doctors and patients about a therapy area littered with past failures—including the 1997 recall of two drugs linked to heart problems used in a slimming cocktail known as "fen-phen" taken by 6 million Americans.

American Home Products, now renamed Wyeth, is only now recovering from the fallout, having been forced to take a record $13.2 billion in charges for fen-phen liabilities.

Slow sales

Today, there are just two major obesity medicines on the market—Meridia/Reductil, which suppresses appetite, and Roche Holding AG's Xenical, which limits fat absorption.

In both cases, the weight loss benefits are modest and Xenical comes with some unpleasant side effects, such as diarrhea after a high-fat meal.

Sales of the two drugs, as a result, have been slow. Xenical, once flagged as the main hope for Swiss drugmaker Roche, raked in 963 million Swiss francs ($578 million) in 2001 while Abbott's drug sold $202 million—relatively small beer in the $350-billion-a-year global drugs industry.

Despite a rocky past, however, obesity remains a priority area for research in pharmaceutical laboratories in Europe, the United States and Japan. *Reuters*

Filipino . . .

From page B3

other provinces. The product was so popular it easily topped their group's sales for the whole duration of the exhibit.

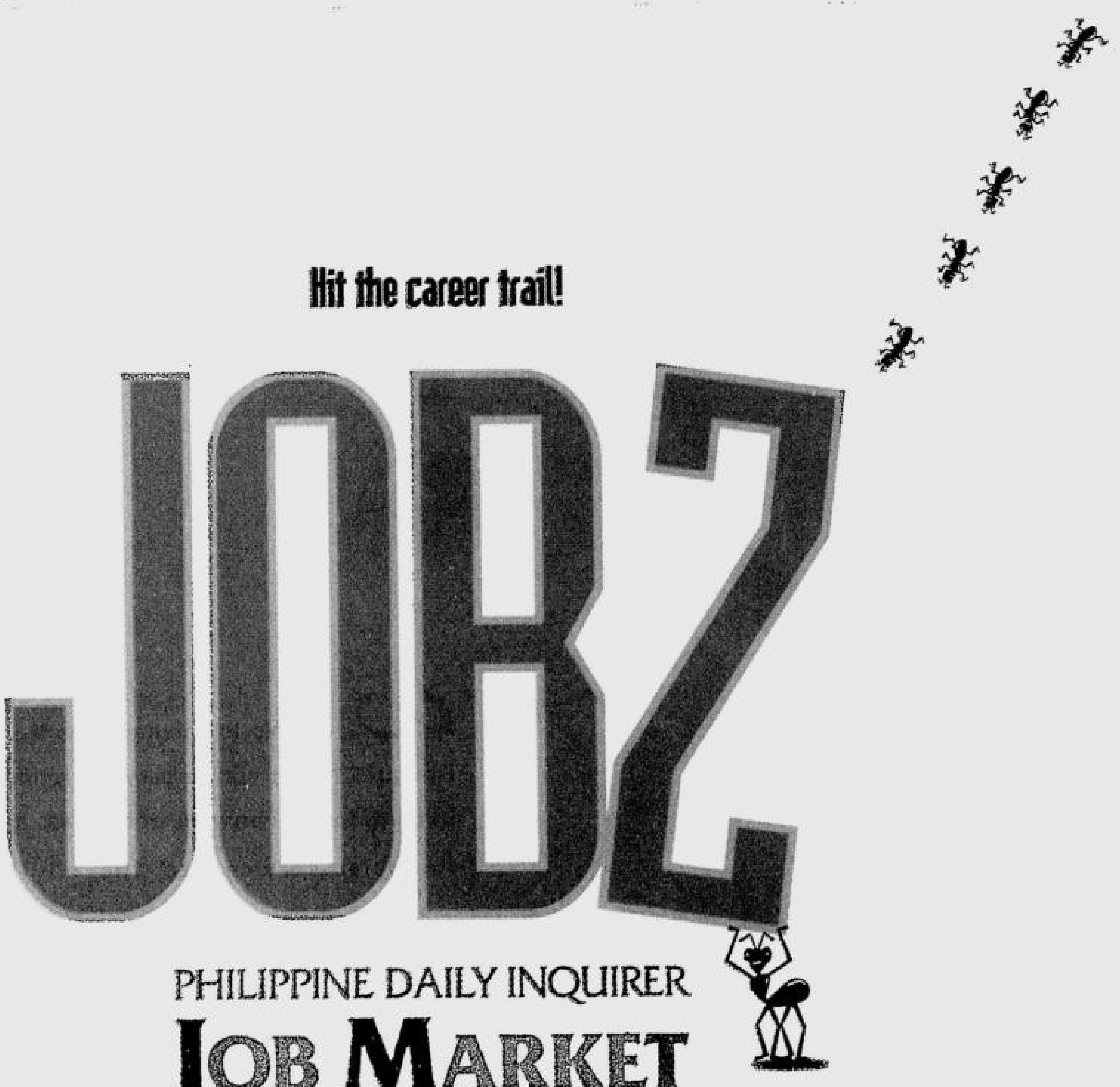
Winners of the competition were determined based on originality, innovativeness, value, craftsmanship, and the application of local resources.

Two other products won runner-up citations. For the Product of the Fair category, the handcrafted handbag made of rattan and fabric from Camarines Sur emerged second. The manufacturer of the product is Daet-based entrepreneur Agnes Phillips who expects that through the Trade Fair, she will be able to expand her market outside of her province.

Clavel Go's pottery entry, Burnay or Tapayan, carted a runner-up finish in the best TLDC Product category. Go says that her pot was originally molded as a container for vinegar and *bagoong* but it later evolved into a decorative art good for garden landscaping. Thanks to the genius of her husband, Fidel Go, a Manlilikha Awardee in 1990, they were able to tap other markets for their pottery business. The Vigan, Ilocos Sur, TLDC assists the Go family in the marketing and promotion of its products.

Four other products excelled as finalists at the fair: Palayan, Nueva Ecija's, ceramic lampshade; the pot and candle of Mia Mendoza; the art frame made of shells and fossilized flowers by Phillips; and the handcrafted sandals made of copra sack from Albay, Camarines Sur, had all earned the nod of the board of judges.

Featured in the exhibit, which was put up to commemorate the TLRC's 25th anniversary, were hundreds of products developed and manufactured by various TLRC partners. Among the products exhibited are handicraft, pharmaceutics, personal care and food. Business counseling and market matching sessions also highlighted the week-long exhibit.



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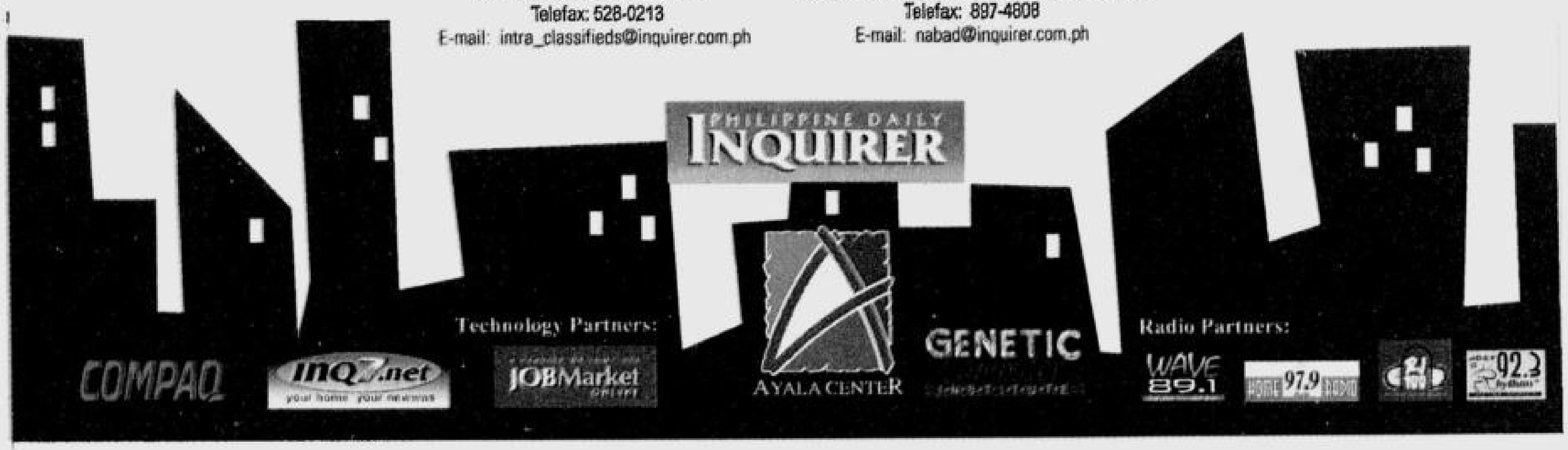

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Medically trained couple hatches biggest egg trade

By Mei Magsino
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

THE AMBAL'S poultry farm produces at least 76,000 eggs a day. MEI MAGSINO

SAN JOSE, Batangas—The desire of a town dentist and his pharmacist-wife to successfully raise their four children and send them to college while helping their townmates built the town's biggest egg production firm that supplies a significant volume of Manila's egg requirement.

Miguel Ambal Jr., 69, and wife Irene, 66, now run the town's biggest poultry farm with 100,000 layers that produce 76,000 eggs every day. The family corporation keeps pollution at bay by turning chicken waste into organic fertilizer.

The family business supplies eggs to the California Marketing Corp., which makes Lady's Choice products, Joni's cakes and pastries, Goldilocks, Jollibee and Filia foods, which makes the Whamos cakes.

While providing quality eggs to consumers, the couple is also busy with its egg-feeding project to public school children in the province and in Metro Manila.

In the family

The eldest son of the town's former mayor, Miguel has been exposed to helping his townmates because of his father's job.

That time, corruption was still an alien word in politics, and as a town mayor, who was sworn to help the people and develop his town, he did what he promised to do.

"I was already 36 and Irene was 33 when we met. I helped send all my eight siblings to college at that time, because we were very poor despite my father's being a town mayor," the younger Ambal said.

The two were chosen to be the Mr. and Ms. San Lazaro Foundation Day in a fund-raising project of the hospital where Irene was a pharmacist.

From there, romance grew and their union built the biggest egg producer in town.

After they got married, Miguel practiced as a full-time dentist in town while Irene transferred to San Jose as a sanitary inspector.

Although he was the town's top dentist at that time, Miguel's growing family and meager income from his job made for a hard life.

Some of his patients still paid him in kind, and since his father was once a politician, he would sometimes treat his patients for free.

P35,000 borrowed capital

To augment their income, the couple decided to go into business. In 1972, they started the egg business in a 2-hectare poultry farm in Barangay Banay-banay, this town, with a start-up capital of P35,000 borrowed from the Philippine National Bank

That time, they had only three helpers.

The Ambals named the farm after their fourth child and only daughter Imee, who is now a practicing dentist.

They started with only 2,000 broilers, but later decided to switch to the layers.

Starting with 800 chicks, they added 1,000 more every four months. In two years' time, the business expanded to accommodate 35,000 layers.

As the farm grew, the couple had to work full-time in the poultry so that they could provide the chickens with 45 bags of feeds a day and market the 34,000 eggs produced every day.

In 1982, after practicing for 35 years, Miguel gave up his job of pulling out other people's ailing tooth and decided to go full-time in the family business.

Since the poultry business is a very complicated one, the couple divided the labor. Miguel managed the production while Irene took charge of the marketing.

Feedmill

In 1986, they decided to put up their own feedmill to gain some marginal profit and to produce their own quality feeds.

Two years later, four couples who are also livestock raisers joined them and they set up the Wincom Feedmill Corp. Now, the feedmill caters to the needs of the owners' farms and the town's as well.

The feedmill now produces 800 bags of feeds a day. Some 65 percent of the feeds go to the corporation's own use, while the rest is for commercial consumption.

In 1991, to comply with a zoning ordinance, the Ambals were forced to transfer the farm to a 9-hectare land in Barangay Aya, which now houses the 100,000 egg-laying chickens.

The Ambal business has 36 personnel who help run the farms, three egg-grading machines to speed up the classification of eggs, a delivery van with a capacity of 150 crates of eggs, a jeep and an elf truck used to transfer supplies to and from the farm.

It is considered the biggest egg producer in San Jose town and the egg basket of Batangas, supplying 60 percent of Metro Manila's egg requirement.

From waste to fertilizer

"In the past, if you traveled by jeepney and passed through San Jose, you would smell the poultry waste in the town," Miguel said, "But not anymore. We have turned the poultry waste into organic fertilizer."

In 1997, after typhoid fever epidemic in San Jose and the local government's demand for a sustainable waste management solution, the Ambals started their organic fertilizer farm in their 25-hectare property, which also houses the poultry at Barangay Aya.

An enzyme developed by a counterpart in Baguio was used to treat the poultry waste, turning it into organic fertilizer.

"At that time, marketing the organic fertilizer was so difficult because of the proliferation of chemical fertilizers. But later, when the farmers in Benguet, La Union, and even the Visayas region learned the advantages of producing their crop the natural way, the demand shot up. The market now needs at least 120,000 sacks a year. But we can produce only 66,000," Miguel said.

Students and tourists regularly visit the organic fertilizer plant to learn more about the technology.

"When students and tourists come here to study, I become their lecturer," Miguel said, "Sometimes, it's still remarkable how chicken manure can be transformed into an organic fertilizer that is now widely used in Baguio. If you have tasted the organically produced strawberries in La Trinidad, Benguet, you'll be surprised at how good naturally grown fruits taste. The fertilizer comes from San Jose, Batangas."

Playing fair

The Ambals have not only been able to send their children to college but they have also successfully put up a multi-investment facility that has helped their townmates and the environment.

Now, two of their sons, Michael and Milvin, are doctors, while Irwin is a lawyer, and the youngest, Imee, is a dentist.

"What really made us successful in this business is not only hard work but also the fact that we play fair. When people know you're honest, they'll put their trust in you," Miguel said.

He claimed that keeping a good name and record in the business world has really helped them a lot, especially when they apply for loans.

"Companies and banks trust us," Irene said.

The husband-and-wife combination also has a good blend of business tactics and management.

Miguel was the aggressive one to get into a business while Irene was the conservative one to study their moves first before rushing headlong into a business venture.

"But had we not improved and moved on to a more profitable business, we would have not gotten this far," Miguel said. "What we did was to continually innovate so that when our clients' sanitary inspectors come for a visit, they give us a good mark."

AYALA CORPORATION

NOTICE OF REGULAR ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the regular annual meeting of stockholders of **AYALA CORPORATION** will be held at the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel InterContinental Manila, Ayala Ave., Makati City, on **Friday, 19 April 2002** at **9:00 a.m.** with the following

AGENDA

1. Determination of Quorum
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
3. Annual Report
4. New Business
    - 4.1 Ratification of all acts and resolutions of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee adopted in the ordinary course of business during the preceding year.
    - 4.2 Ratification of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors on 14 February 2002 approving the following amendments to Article Seventh of the Amended Articles of Incorporation:
        - (i) Reclassification of the existing 400 Million Common "X" shares with a par value of ₱10.00 per share, to Four Billion(4,000,000,000) Common shares with a par value of ₱1.00 per share;
        - (ii) Reclassification of the existing and unissued Two Bilion(2,000,000,000) Preferred "AA" shares into new Two Billion(2,000,000,000) Preferred "A" shares
        - (iii) Re-issuance of the fully redeemed One Billion (1,000,000,000) Preferred "A" shares and One Billion (1,000,000,000) Preferred "B" shares, both with a par value of ₱1.00 per share, as new Two Billion (2,000,000,000) Preferred "A" shares;
5. Election of Directors
6. Election of Auditors and Fixing their Remuneration
7. Consideration of such other business as may properly come before the meeting
8. Adjournment

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on 06 March 2002 are entitled to notice of, and to vote, at this meeting. As per By-laws, the Stock and Transfer Books of the Corporation will be closed from 28 March 2002 to 19 April 2002, inclusive. For your convenience in registering your attendance, please bring your Stockholders' Identification Card and present the same at the registration desk at the entrance lobby of the Hotel InterContinental Grand Ballroom. Registration will start at 7:00 a.m.

Makati City, 18 February 2002.

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MERCEDITA S. NOLLEDO
Senior Managing Director
& Corporate Secretary

Luxury...

From page B6

said, citing a slick, high-tech LVMH advertising campaign which was replaced by softer, more playful images.

"In a way we are back to where luxury originally came from. The focus is on personal, one-to-one treatment."

Wall Street analysts were mixed over whether an expected economic recovery would salvage luxury goods sales this year.

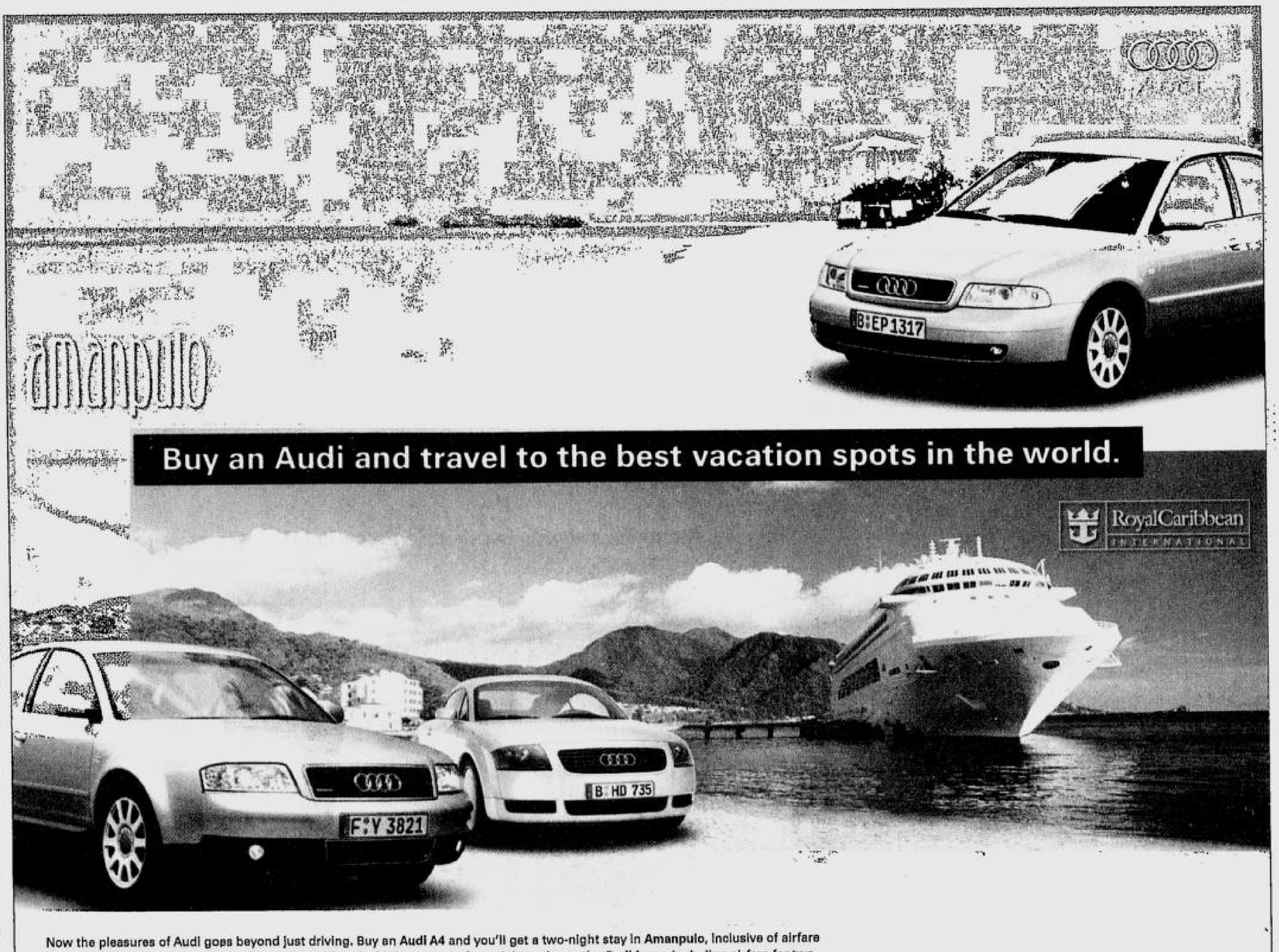
Merrill Lynch and Goldman Sachs have cited early stages of improving sales across the luxury sector. They both upgraded their investor ratings of Neiman Marcus last week.

But Morgan Stanley Dean Witter has remained downbeat on the sector on doubts consumers will to buy branded products in the current economic and social climate.

One fashion consultant said the luxury sector needed to tone itself down to attract customers.

"The trend now is toward more romantic, classic and tailored designs," said Pat Tunsky, creative director of the Doneger Group fashion consultants. "What's gone out of fashion is anything that's too glitzy or over-the-top," she said.

"A status symbol will always be desirable. There is still a glitzy Fendi bag to be had out there, and the very, very rich will still want to buy it." *Reuters*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Tiwi earthenware fights for survival

By Roly Embile
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

TIWI, Albay—The Our Lady of Salvation here is considered the second most revered and visited site for pilgrimages for the Bicol devotees of the Virgin Mother, next only to the shrine of Our Lady of Peñafrancia in Naga City.

In a region steeped in religion and tradition, such a trip is made livelier by the promise of purchasing exquisite hand-made earthenware.

On Sundays, especially on the feast day of the patroness of Albay province in August, they come by the tens of thousands in jeeps, buses and motorized tricycles from all over the region.

After the church services, the pilgrims and even regular churchgoers flock to any one of some 52 stalls of earthenware lined up along the church patio.

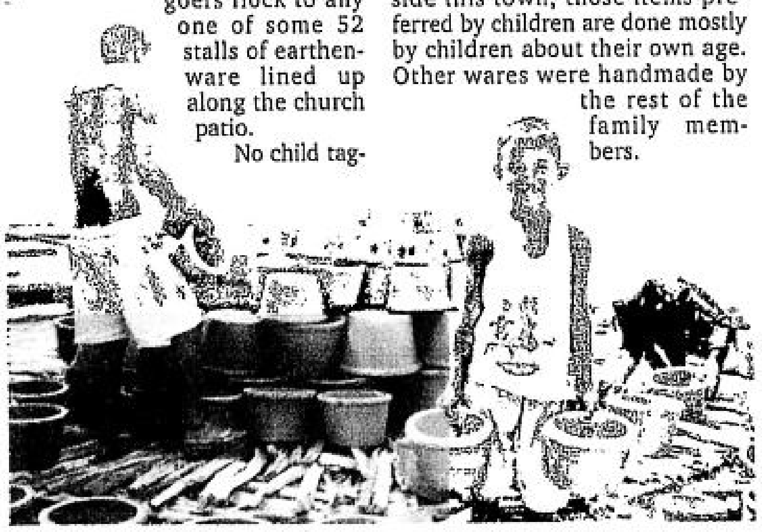
No child tagging along his parents on a pilgrimage goes home without one, or two items of earthenware uniquely produced by dedicated artisans of three coastal villages in this town.

The boys invariably prefer the *badil-badil* (clay toy gun) and any one of the various colorful animal-shaped piggy banks while the girls would pine for the *gading-gading* (clay dolls) and the miniature earthen cooking sets of *koron-koron*, *koro-kawali* and *talohong* (small pot, frying pan and mortar, respectively).

Mothers would also buy some functional household items of their own, like *koron* and *dulay* (flower pot and water jug) with their husbands preferring decorative ashtrays and paperweights.

And there are many other items to choose from. The *daod* (drinking jar), *dulay* (big water jug), decorative figurines and bricks are among the favorites.

Unknown to most people outside this town, those items preferred by children are done mostly by children about their own age. Other wares were handmade by the rest of the family members.



IAN Completo, 7, helps stack pots.

EULALIA Balerdo, 76, displays her earthenware.

LETICIA, 54, in her stall in downtown Tiwi, Albay.

Child apprentice

Under the heat of the afternoon sun last week, 7-year-old Ian Completo was stacking 2-kilo pots, two at a time. Ian carried on the chore silently and uncomplainingly.

After some three or four hours of "cooking" the pots and a few more to cool them off, he was ready to do the similar job of transferring the pots into storage a shed.

But it was only one of various chores lined up for Ian, who was barely out of the first grade, to do during the rest of the summer school break.

Like most other children in his village of Putsan and the two adjacent barangays of Bolo and Baybay, virtually all able-bodied members of the family are involved in the production of terra cotta earthenware.

Ian, as an apprentice, will help out in other chores such as the *sarik*.

The children-apprentices, both boys and girls, involved in the *sarik* use small bamboo pallets to remove excess clay from the rough edges and rims of the molded earth.

These children were raised and trained to do these chores as they come from a long line of artisans and highly skilled seafarers whose industry and art date back long before the arrival of the Spaniards in the country.

Jose Torrente, 48, of Putsan village here told the INQUIRER that about 70 percent of the population in his village are engaged either fully, or part time, in the industry, but earning only about P50 a day from the painstaking job.

Unchanged for centuries

The process of making the terra cotta earthenware items has changed little, if at all, for centuries.

It begins with the quarrying of the potter's clay, exclusively found and bought from landowners in the villages of Putsan, Baybay and Bolo, which to this day is done by sheer muscle power.

The moist clay is then spread thinly on the concrete until it is dry enough for manual pounding on a boat-shaped *galpongan*, or mortar, which had been replaced by the *pagulong*, a heavy carabao-pulled roller.

The resulting course grain undergoes further refining through a fine screen called the *sirne*.

After refining to a desired grain, the red clay, the basic material, and the white clay, the hardener, are then mixed with water in a *masa* (kneading) until it becomes a consistent sticky mixture of *dugi* (dough).

The resulting dough is next wedged and spun in a potter's wheel, or *bayang*, where it is given its shape and character and finally its design in a process called the *pikpik* (gentle tapping with the a hand).

Then it is left to dry in the sun before the *pagba*, or the hardening by an open pyre, which lasts for an average of four hours.

Some of the items—like the figurines, dolls, toys and some flower vases—after cooling, are painted. Others are sold unpainted.

The *parao* trade

The residents of the Putsan, Baybay and Bolo, are natural seafarers and fishermen as well as highly skilled terra cotta craftsmen.

For one reason, the coastal villages where they have lived for

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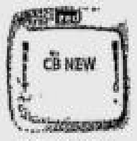

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MONITORING AND EVALUATION SPECIALIST - REGION V

Qualifications:

- ➢ Must be a graduate of a four-year course in the field of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, Environmental Science, Rural Development, or related field such as Economics.
- ➢ Must have at least five years experience in monitoring and evaluation of rural development projects.
- ➢ Must have at least three years experience in working with local government units, government agencies, and local communities/peoples' organizations.
- ➢ Must have a working knowledge in the formulation of a project logical framework/project planning matrix and community-level/participatory M&E.
- ➢ Must have at least 20 hours of relevant training, particularly on logframe, results monitoring, and community-level M&E.
- ➢ Must be computer literate (esp. Word and Excel) and with good communication and writing skills.
- ➢ Knowledgeable on local dialects and preferably a resident of Region V.
- ➢ Must be physically fit and willing to travel in remote upland and coastal areas.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT FOR M&E - REGIONS V, VII, VIII and XIII

Qualifications:

- ➢ Must be a graduate of a four-year course in Computer Science, Computer Management, and other course related to Information Technology.
- ➢ Must have at least three years experience in the development, operations, and maintenance of management information systems.
- ➢ Must have at least three years experience in data gathering/analysis, and monitoring and evaluation of community-based NRM projects.
- ➢ Must have at least two years experience working with local government units, government agencies, and communities/peoples' organizations.
- ➢ Must have at least a working knowledge in the application of "4GL", proficient in Windows application, with at least 20 hours of relevant training.
- ➢ Knowledgeable on local dialects and preferably resident of Regions V, VII, VIII, and XIII.

Interested applicants may send their letter of application and comprehensive resumé not later than **17 April 2002** to the following:

The Project Director
Podium, Municipal Development Fund Office
Department of Finance Executive Building
Roxas Boulevard, Manila

The Regional Coordinator
CBRMP Region V
4F ANST Building
Washington Drive, Legazpi City

The Regional Coordinator
CBRMP Region VII
5F BF Building
N. Escario Street, Cebu City

The Regional Coordinator
CBRMP Region VIII
Timo Romano Real Street
Sagkahan District, Tacloban City

The Regional Coordinator
CBRMP-CARAGA
3F Aguilar Building, Pili Drive
Butuan City

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CARABALLO AND SOUTHERN CORDILLERA
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
A Programme for Self-Reliance
Bayombong 3700, Nueva Vizcaya
Telefax: (078) 3213611 • Tel.: (078) 3214128 or 3212605
Email: cascade_erp@hotmail.com

CASCADE

Local Expert for an LGU-based

Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation Systems

is being sought by the Caraballo and Southern Cordillera Agricultural Development Programme (CASCADE) to establish an LGU-based participatory M&E system for the LUGs.

Candidates must possess:

1. Master's Degree or higher, from a recognized institution, in rural Development and related fields specializing in participatory approaches/M&E techniques;
2. Familiar with Local Government structure and well-versed in the Local Government Code of 1991;
3. At least five (5) years relevant professional experience in rural development particularly working with the local government units;
4. Experience in setting up LGU-based participatory monitoring and evaluation systems and implementing participatory M&E-related training programmes;
5. Computer literacy highly proficient in database management.

Knowledge on existing M&E systems (i.e. LPPMS of DILG and RPMES/RME of NEDA), an advantage.

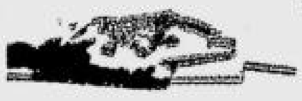
The selected candidate will start his/her assignment in June 2002 for a period of twelve (12) months. Contract financial conditions will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

CASCADE is an equal opportunity employer. Interested candidates must submit their letter of interest, accompanied by a most recent Curriculum Vitaé to the address below not later than 30 April 2002.

Programme Co-Directors
CASCADE, Bonfal West, Bayombong
Nueva Vizcaya
And/or: Fax (078) 321-3611
Email: cascade_erp@hotmail.com

Note:Only shortlisted candidates will be responded to.

(PDI - April 12 & 14, 2002)



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www.jobmarketonline.com

DERMATOLOGY INSTITUTE FOUNDATION

VBP dermclinic
THE TRUE SKIN AND HAIR CLINIC

Invite medical graduates for a three (3) year residency training in **DERMATOLOGY.** **CEBU, ILOILO, DAVAO** and **CAGAYAN DE ORO** residents are encouraged to apply. Interested parties are requested to reply in writing with the following documents:

Curriculum Vitae
One 2x2 picture
Letter of Intent
Two (2) original letters of recommendation
Clear photocopy of the following:
Transcript of Records
Medical diploma
PRC Certificate
Medical Board Rating

Successful applicants will undergo training in Manila, for re-assignment to their places of origin. Send your application and requirements to:

The Human Resources Department
5/F MGF Champaca Bldg., 156 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati
hrd@vbp.com.ph

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

HANDICRAFT DESIGNERS

- With extensive training/experience in designing high quality novelty & Christmas decorative products
- Quality conscious, service-oriented, adaptable and can work under pressure
- Opportunity to be based in ShenZhen China
- High salary package
- Must be a graduate of B.S. Fine Arts

Interview will be held at: CEO Executive Suites 72 Jupiter Street, Bel-Air Village, Makati.

Interested party may contact Mr. Berchtold on May 4 first thru Tel. No. (02) 897-7272. Please bring your curriculum vitaé and a possible sample artwork during interview.

ELECTRICIAN

A medium-sized company 25 yrs. in business needs an all-around Bldg. Maintenance Man whose main skill is Electrician. Not more than 40 yrs. old. Mail detailed Biodatá, other credentials & recent photo to: Ms. Alva, M.C.P.O. Box 1937, 1259 Makati City.

Win ₱25,000 this week!
Just answer the Text to Millions Pinoy Entertainment trivia questions on your SMART celfone.

SMART is looking for bright men and women who are very much into Pinoy Entertainment Trivia. Those who are interested can join SMART zed's TEXT to Milli,000,000ns quiz game. You all get a chance to win ₱25,000 in 9 weekly draws, ₱50,000 in 2 monthly draws and ₱1,000,000 in the Grand Draw!

Promo period is from April 1 to June 30, 2002.

How to join:

QUIZ JOIN
Cel Villanueva/
108 Herrera St.,
Makati City

Key in QUIZ<space>JOIN<space><full name>/<address> and send to 288.
Ex. QUIZ JOIN Cel Villanueva/108 Herrera St., Makati City

SMART
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PAN PACIFIC INDUSTRIAL SALES CO., INC.

is in need of **TELEMARKETERS**, must be
- Female, 22-30 years of age
- Self-motivated, energetic and enthusiastic
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Preferably college graduate
- Pleasing personality

CUSTOMER SERVICE/SALES REP, must be
- Male, 22-30 years of age
- At least 5'9" in height
- With license to drive a car and motorcycle
- Good communication skills

COMMISSION SALES REPRESENTATIVE
(FOR MARITIME INDUSTRY)
- With sales experience
- With good moral character, good communication skills
- Enthusiastic, self-motivated

Interested parties apply in person at
246 Panpisco Building, Escolta Street, Manila City
For inquiries, call tel. 2428765 to 74 and
Look for Ms. Pam

Strengthening the Foundations of
Lasting Peace and Development in Southern Mindanao

URGENT RECRUITMENT

An international development organization implementing peace and development in Southern Philippines is in search of a qualified individual to fill-up the position of **Programme Technical Assistant (PTA)** to be based in Cotabato City. Under the direct supervision of and reporting to the Programme Coordinator (PC), the PTA shall provide technical support to the programme as follows:

A. *Programme Planning*
   1. Subject to the PC's review of the Programme Support Coordination Team (PSCT) Units, Area Coordination Team (ACT) and the Component's workplans, assists the PC in consolidating the programme's overall plans.
   2. Provide technical support to the PSCT, joint PSCT and ACT and joint PSCT, ACT and Component's planning activities.

B. *Programme Implementation and Coordination*
   1. Provide assistance to the PC in drafting communications related to programme policies, guidelines and direction.
   2. Assist in facilitating PSCT services to programme-wide activities like meetings of the Executive Committee (EXCOM), Programme Advisory Group (PAG) and other bodies, conference and workshops.
   3. Assist in preparing drafts of working papers for the programme.
   4. Assist the PC in monitoring follow-up actions of the EXCOM and PAG agreements and decisions.
   5. As directed by the PC, conduct liaison work with programme partners like donors agencies, national like agencies, local governments, civil society groups and the client-beneficiaries.
   6. Provide assistance in reviewing programme-related proposals coming from the different units and ACTs for decision-making consideration and coordinating the same to the Administrative and finance Units.
   7. Assist the PC in facilitating coordination and complementation of programme Component's activities.

C. *Programme Monitoring and Evaluation*
   1. Work closely with the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and Management Information System (MIS) Specialists in undertaking periodic monitoring and assessment activities and installing and developing the management information systems of the programme respectively and in the preparation of corresponding reports and related communications

D. *Reporting*
   1. Assist the PC in the preparation of the consolidated programme accomplishment reports and the packaging of the same for presentation purposes.
   2. Provide technical support in the preparation of the EXCOM and Programme Advisory Group agenda papers.

Qualifications
- At least five (5) years experience in rural social development work, preferably with exposure with international development agencies and Mindanao programmes/projects
- Masteral units in social development or development management
- Must be proficient in oral communication and skilled in technical writing in both English and Filipino
- Must be familiar with project Programme Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation (PIME)
- Can run windows-based computer applications (word, spread sheets, database, powerpoint and other programs)
- Familiar with the culture, history and current situation in Mindanao.
- Able to converse in any of the local dialects (preferably Visayan)
- Can work under pressure Preferably all applicants should come from Mindanao.

Please submit your application letter and comprehensive resume on or before **19 April 2002** to Development Support Services Center, United Nations Development Programme, 7th Floor, NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier) or P.O. Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box, 1300 Domestic Road, Pasay City (via airmail), Tel. Nos. (632) 8924528/8920611 to 25, Fax Nos. (632) 8164061/8939598; Email Address: hc_admin.ph@undp.org

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YOUR ROAD TO SUCCESS!

A chance to earn unlimited income in US Dollar here in your own backyard.

KENDEIGH INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

A Philippine based international company on its expansion program invites qualified and interested applicants for the post below:

BUSINESS MANAGER

- 21 years old and above
- Male and Female
- Aggressive, analytical and can work under pressure
- Fluent in English and Chinese (is an advantage)
- A graduate of any reputable university with 4-year course (preferably a graduate of Ateneo, La Salle, UP and UST)
- Self motivated and can work with minimum supervision
- Fresh graduates are welcome

We provide:
- Intensive training
- On-the-job training
- Management training

We offer:
- Five figure monthly remuneration
- Incentives and Awards
- Commission in US Dollars
- Overseas Holiday
- Managerial Promotion

Interested applicants must bring their resumé with 2x2 ID picture and personally apply in proper corporate attire at:

THE PEAK TOWER BUILDING
Unit 1101-1104, 107 L.P. Leviste Street, Brgy. Bel-Air
Salcedo Village, Makati City
From 15th to 19th day of April 2002
10:30 AM - 5:00 PM

IMMEDIATE HIRING !!!
FOR A COLOR SEPARATION COMPANY

-Account Executive

If you are articulate, with good command of oral and written communication
- With pleasing personality
- Can produce a "generous" amount of sales
- Must be good in handling client-company relation
- Must be computer literate
- Must have experience in color separation or related business
- Salary depends on qualification

-Sales Trainee

- Fresh college graduate preferrably with Marketing Degree or related course
- Must have good moral character
- Willing to be trained
- Must be computer literate

Please submit your resumé to
Unit 10 Southway Condo., Bakawan cor. Mayapis Sts.,
San Antonio Village, Makati Tel: 894 1811 up to 14

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

PROFESSIONAL PARALEGALS for the Institute of Continuing Legal Studies & Education. **Qualifications:** Must have completed at least 3 years of the Ll.B or a legal management course and must be proficient in written English. Contact Ms. Beth O. Guerrero or Atty. Bunny Beltran at tel. nos.: 721-3470, 724-0595, 725-1481 or 722-0432

CARE International, one of the world's best-known NGOs, works in 60 countries to provide development and relief assistance to the poor.

CARE Philippines, an international non-government organization is in need of a FINANCE MANAGER with the following requirements:

JOB OBJECTIVE:

The Finance Manager has to contribute to the achievement of CARE Philippines' mission and vision by effectively managing the Central Finance Unit to ensure the provision of a timely, effective, cost-efficient, and quality advice and service to the Country Director and various operating units and projects handled by CARE Philippines.

Key responsibility areas on Central Finance Unit management, administrative support, financial reports and records, HQ communication, CO information and audit, systems and procedures, liaison and networking, budget process, review and preparation, and monitoring and control.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's degree in accountancy with a recognized certified public accountant or equivalent
- Three (3) years managerial experience in the financial management of non-profit organization or accounting firm, or five (5) years of managerial experience in a commercial enterprise.
- Proficiency in MS Office packages (Word, Excel, Power Point, Access).
- Working knowledge of an integrated financial information system preferably Scala.
- Good written and verbal English communication skills.

CARE offers a stimulating work environment, and attractive remuneration and benefits. Please send your two-page resume on or before 24 April 2002 addressed to: David Neff, Country Director through email: carephil@care.org.ph or fax to: (02) 551-2631. CARE regrets it can reply only to short-listed applicants.

An Ortigas Center, Pasig based law firm is looking for a

LEGAL SECRETARY

- Must be able to speak and write in English, with good communication skills
- College graduate and computer literate
- Candidates with experience in similar positions, and with stenographic skills preferred

Mail all applications and resumé to
P.O. Box 13135, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Sales Executives and Customer Service Representatives

- must be college graduates
- with at least 2 years experience

PRESTIGE CARS MAKATI, INC., a leading dealer of BMW vehicles, is in need of dynamic, self-motivated ladies to join its Sales Executive and Customer Service Representative teams. Applicants must have a pleasing personality with good communication and interpersonal skills. Those interested may apply at our Human Resources Dept. during office hours Mon. to Sat., for the remainder of April 2002.

Prestige Cars Makati, Inc.
Everything BMW.
2324 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City.

Prestige Cars Makati
Tel. 893-8137 to 39

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTING TASK FORCE
BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITION
(In compliance with RA 7041)

(1) ENGINEER II - SG 16, Item No. EFIP 6-4. Bachelor's degree in Engineering relevant to the job; 1 year of relevant experience; 4 hours of relevant training, Licensed Civil Engineer

Qualified applicants must send their resumé, transcript of records, recent ID picture and other credentials to

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICE
DepEd-EDPITAF
Dorm D, DepEd Complex
Meralco Avenue Pasig City

Deadline for submission of application is on April 15, 2002.
Previous applicants need not apply.

(PDI – Apr 13 & 14, 2002)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

EDITORIAL OFFICE ASSISTANT

(for Legazpi Bureau).

- College graduate preferably major in Journalism, Mass Communication or English; 2 years experience as an editorial assistant or jobs lead to it; Computer skills, Interviewing skills Layouting skills, Writing skills

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Surgery,
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, is now
accepting applicants for
FIRST YEAR RESIDENTS
in General Surgery.

Please contact Dr. Victorio C. Dongallo, tel 716-3901 for interested applicants.

Need Easy Cash?

Join SMART's **R U LOADED?**!!! It is the only SMART Buddy promo where you get to choose your cash prize. If you choose to win ₱50,000 this week, load ₱300. If you choose to win ₱150,000, load ₱500. If you choose to win ₱250,000, load ₱1000!

And if you still choose to win the ₱2 Million grand prize, just keep on loading your SMART Buddy account! The more you load, the more chances of winning!

Promo period is from April 1 to June 30, 2002.

How to register:

LOADED
Osay Magtura /
108 Herrera St.,
Makati City

Key in LOADED <full name> / <address> and send to 211.

SMART
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See posters and print ads for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0519 Series of 2002.

From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper: INQUIRER

JOB MARKET

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

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unicef

United Nations Children's Fund

IT Assistant

(for one year)

- Assist in the maintenance and administration of the LAN.
- Assist in designing, improving, and implementing network and security solutions.
- Provide hardware and software technical support to all users. Report or troubleshoot hardware equipment such as computers, printers, scanners, CD-writers, and LCD projectors.
- Liaise with local suppliers on specifications, procurement, and repair of computer equipment.
- Assist in the installation, testing, administration, and management of standard organizational programs and other software such as email, office, publishing, databases, internet, intranet, and other tools.
- Assist in the inventory of hardware and software equipment.

- *University degree in Computer Science, BS Electronics, Electrical Engineering, or any related engineering course.*
- *At least three years experience in LAN/WAN and firewall technologies.*
- *Knowledgeable in Windows NT 4.0; must have experience in installing, configuring, and implementing Windows NT 4 in an enterprise environment.*
- *Knowledge of Lotus Notes, Web page development and programming would be an asset.*
- *Excellent interpersonal skills, good communication skills.*
- *MSCE, MCP preferred but not required.*

Please RUSH application letter together with bio-data to the Operations Officer, UNICEF, P.O. Box 1076 MCPO, 1250 Makati City. Closing date is 28 April 2002. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview.

UNICEF is a non-smoking working environment.
Applications from qualified women are encouraged

A leading international organization operating in 162 countries and territories through 8 regional offices and 126 country offices needs

PRODUCT MANAGER

Based in Manila, the selected candidate would have the following **major duties and responsibilities:**

○ Conceptualize, formulate, develop and implement a marketing plan for a basic food ingredient.
○ Contribute directly and constructively by developing a cooperative working relationship with strategic partners and business alliances in the industry.
○ Responsible for monitoring the distribution and facilitating the achievement of pre-determined merchandising and sales targets nationwide and ensure that appropriate resources are budgeted to accomplish product or brand objectives.
○ Responsible for formulating business-building activities that translates into actionable plans and positive customer response.
○ Able to initiate market research studies and make recommendations on strategies for specific brand and product categories.

Below are the desired **minimum qualifications, skills, and competencies** for the position:

○ Degree in Marketing, Communications, Business Management or any business-related course, with a Master's degree in Marketing, Management or Business Administration.
○ Minimum of five years experience in a senior marketing and sales function, preferably in product and brand management, merchandising or retail operations.
○ Capacity to lead and work effectively and harmoniously with a team of colleagues from varied professional backgrounds and different industries.
○ Results-oriented individual with a strategic mindset to drive product distribution and availability.
○ Creative, resourceful, very analytical and a strategic thinker. Able to communicate and present ideas effectively. Strong negotiating skills
○ Knowledgeable of advertising requirements, promotions and product launching campaigns.
○ Selling experience in supermarket and restaurant supplies or ingredients in the food industry is an advantage.
○ High level of computer literacy and proficient in MS Office applications.
○ Specific competencies: Adaptability, Building Alliances, Building a Successful team, Business Sense, Resources Management, and Empowerment.

The candidates must be goal and results-oriented and must be able to adapt to a corporate culture that values teamwork, excellence, quality and productivity.

Applicants are required to send their application letter, comprehensive resumé with recent photo not later than April 28, 2002 to:

**P.O. Box 1076
Makati Central Post Office
1250 Makati City, Philippines**

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim
Office of the Undersecretary

INVITATION TO BID

The Department of Education through the National Education Testing and Research Center (NETRC) is inviting all suppliers and computer service providers for the bidding of various office equipments, software development and local area network (LAN).

All interested suppliers must submit a Letter of Intent before obtaining bid documents starting **April 17, 2002** at the BAC Secretariat Office, Rm. 112-A, Mabini Bldg., DepEd Complex, Pasig City or visit the DepEd website at http://www.decs.gov.ph.

A pre-bid conference will be held on **April 25, 2002**, 10:00 AM at Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal Bldg. I, DepEd Complex, Pasig City. The Submission and Opening of Bids will be on **May 9, 2002** at the same time and place mentioned above.

DepEd-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of the bids.

(Sgd.) **ERNESTO S. PANGAN**
Undersecretary
Chairman, Bids & Award Committee

(PDI--April 14, 2002)

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giathai@ksc15.th.com
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Join and make a difference in countless lives!

The Department of Health is in need of **35 physicians**

for employment under its **Doctors to the Barrios Program**

Minimum Requirements

- Licensed Doctor of Medicine
- Filipino citizen
- Physically and mentally fit
- Of good moral character
- Willingness to work in depressed and hard-to-reach areas for 2 years
- Interested in community health
- Not more thyan 50 years Old

Benefit Package

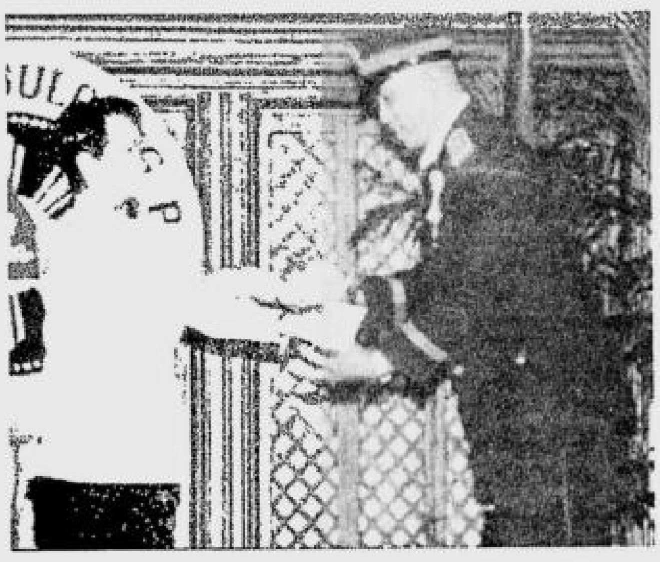
- Good pay
- Government Insurance coverage
- Continuing Medical Education
- Degree in Health Care Management
- Opportunity to earn a Master's Degree in Health Care Management
- Opportunity to travel
- Journals, MIMS
- Other incentives (clothing substance, laundry, hazard allowances)

Apply in person or submit letter of application with credentials addressed to:

KENNETH G. RONQUILLO, MD, MPHM
Officer-in-Charge
Health Human Resource Development Bureau
Bldg. 12-A, DOH Compd., Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. Nos. 781-1721/743-1776

or the

Center for Health Development Director
in your respective regions
Deadline for submission of applications : April 30, 2002



ANNOUNCING!

THE ANNUAL SEARCH FOR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES

As part of the incentives and rewards program for the bureaucracy, the Civil Service Commission spearheads annually the Search for Outstanding Public Officials and Employees.

Four Awards are at stake. The awards, categories, the qualifications of nominees and nomination procedures are as follows:

LINGKOD BAYAN AWARD

The Presidential or *Lingkod Bayan* Award is conferred on public officials and employees of outstanding merit based on exceptional or extraordinary contributions resulting from an idea or performance that had nationwide impact on public interest, security and patrimony. This may be a suggestion, innovation, invention or superior accomplishment.

DANGAL NG BAYAN AWARD

The Outstanding Public Officials and Employees Award or the *Dangal ng Bayan* Award is conferred on public officials and employees for performance of extraordinary act or public service and consistent demonstration of exemplary ethical behavior on the basis of their observance of one or more of the following eight (8) norms of behavior as provided under Republic Act No. 6713: Commitment to Public Interest; Professionalism; Justness and Sincerity; Political Neutrality; Responsiveness to the Public; Nationalism and Patriotism; Commitment to Democracy; and Simple Living.

PAGASA AWARD

The Civil Service Commission or Pagasa Award is conferred on an individual or group of individuals for consistent dedicated performance exemplifying the best in any profession or occupation; or for contribution/s resulting from an idea or performance which directly benefit more than one department or the government though not of such extraordinary or exceptional degree as to warrant the Lingkod Bayan Award.

KATANGI-TANGING BIHASANG MANGGAGAWA AWARD

The Outstanding Skilled Workers or Katangi-tanging Bihasang Manggagawa Award is conferred on blue-collar workers in government who have demonstrated exemplary performance and whose achievements have greatly contributed to the over-all operations of the bureaucracy.

QUALIFICATIONS

For Lingkod Bayan, Dangal ng Bayan and Pagasa Awards

Nomination is open to all officials and employees in the career and non-career service of the national and local governments, including those in the state universities and colleges, and government-owned or controlled corporations with original charters.

Officials and employees nominated to this award must:

1. be in the government service at the time of nomination (except posthumous).
2. have been rated at least *Very Satisfactory* or its equivalent for the last two (2) consecutive rating periods prior to their nomination;
3. have not been found guilty of any administrative or criminal offense involving moral turpitude and have no pending criminal or administrative case at the time of the nomination;
4. be a recognized team/group in the agency (for group nominee).

For Katangi-tanging Bihasang Manggagawa Award

Nomination is open to all skilled or blue collar workers holding permanent appointments in the national and local governments, including those in the state universities and colleges and government-owned and controlled corporations with original charter.

Skilled workers nominated to this award must:

1. have at least three years of experience as a blue-collar worker;
2. have a *Very Satisfactory* rating for the last two rating periods.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

In the evaluation of the accomplishments of nominees, the following criteria shall be considered:

For Lingkod Bayan and Pagasa Awards

a. Noteworthiness of Outstanding Contribution/s
b. Impact of Performance/Contribution
c. Relevance/Responsiveness
d. Consistency of performance

For Dangal ng Bayan Award

a. Quality and consistency of Behavioral Performance
b. Impact of Behavioral Performance
c. Risk or Temptation inherent in the Work
d. Obscurity of the Position
e. Years of Service
f. Other similar circumstances or considerations in favor of the particular nominee.

For Katangi-tanging Bihasang Manggagawa Award

a. Impact of Achievements on the Organization
b. Quality of Performance
c. Interpersonal Relationship
d. Supervisor and Co-Worker's Assessment of the nominee as a worker
e. Community Assessment of the nominee as member of the community

REQUIREMENTS FOR NOMINATION

The following documents shall be submitted (1 copy each):

1. Duly accomplished nomination form;
2. Personal Data Sheet of the nominee duly subscribed and sworn to before the highest ranking Human Resource Management Officer (HRMO) in the employing agency;
3. Performance Rating of at least *Very Satisfactory* or its equivalent for the last two consecutve rating periods prior to nomination.
4. Latest Statement of Assets and Liabilities (for Lingkod Bayan and Dangal ng Bayan Awards);
5. Certification of the highest HRMO/ Legal Officer in the Agency that the nominee/s has/have not been found guilty of any criminal offense involving moral turpitude and/or administrative offense and has/have no pending case against him/them at the time of nomination;
6. Documentation of nominee's exceptional work performance and achievement/clippings, citations, publications, pictures if any, in support of the nomination; and
7. 5 cm. X 5 cm. photo of nominee withhis/her name written at the bottom side of the picture.

PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION

A public official/employee may be nominated by his/her immediate supervisor, co-worker or any private person or organization. Except for nominations to the Dangal ng Bayan Award which may be directly submitted to the Commission, nominations must be submitted in the prescribed form to the Committee on Program on Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) for evaluation. Department/Agency nominations must be duly signed by the Chairperson of PRAISE approved/endorsed by the Head of Office.

Although an employee or official may be qualified to any of the four awards, he/she should be nominated to only one award at a time or given year.

Past honor awardees can still be nominated to the same or another award i.e. a *Lingkod Bayan* awardee can still be nominated to the same award provided that the said nomination is based on new accomplishments.

SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS

Nominations to all four awards must be forwarded to any of the Civil Service Regional, Provincial or Field Offices on or before May 15 of any given year. Those received after May 15 will automatically be included for evaluation in the succeeding year's awards.

FORMS OF REWARD AND INCENTIVES

Lingkod Bayan Awardees shall receive a gold (gilded) medallion and plaque containing the citation and signature of the President of the Philippines. **Dangal ng Bayan Awardees** shall receive a trophy designed and executed by National Artist for Sculpture Napoleon V. Abueva. Recipients of both awards shall be given a cash reward of P100,000.00 each and shall also be entitled to an automatic promotion to the next higher position suitable to their qualifications or salary increase equivalent to the next higher position.

The **Pagasa** and **Katangi-tanging Bihasang Manggagawa Awardees** shall receive a gold (gilded) medallion, a plaque containing the citation and signature of the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission and a cash reward of P50,000.00 and P25,000.00 each, respectively.

For other details, please get in touch with your Human Resource Management Officer or with the Public Information Service, Civil Service Commission, Constitution Hills, Diliman, Quezon City, Tel. Nos. 931-7993/931-6850/51; or the nearest Civil Service Regional, Provincial and Field Offices.

DEPARTMENT OF
TRADE & INDUSTRY
PHILIPPINES

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR GENERAL SAFEGUARD MEASURES AGAINST THE IMPORTATION OF GRAY PORTLAND CEMENT FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES
(SAFEGUARD CASE NO. 02-2001)

Philippine Cement Manufacturers Corp. (PHILCEMCOR)
Protestant
x---x

DECISION

On 22 May 2001, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) accepted a properly documented application from the Philippine Cement Manufacturers Corporation (PHILCEMCOR) alleging that cement is being imported into the Philippines in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury or threat thereof to the domestic industry within the meaning of Republic Act (R.A.) 8800, otherwise known as the "Safeguard Measures Act." The application sought the imposition of provisional and definitive general safeguard measures on imports of cement.

The DTI made a positive preliminary determination on the application and in accordance with Section 8 of RA 8800, found that the "critical circumstances" existed which justified the imposition of provisional measures equivalent to P20.60 per 40 kg. bag not exceeding 200 days from the date of issuance by the Bureau of Customs (BOC) of the implementing Customs Memorandum Order (CMO). The BOC issued CMO No. 38-2001 on 10 December 2001 to implement the said DTI Order. The DTI's report was forwarded to the Tariff Commission as required by Section 7 for formal investigation.

On 14 March 2002, DTI received the Tariff Commission's Formal Investigation Report on the said application.

The Tariff Commission found that:

1. The circumstances provided in Article XIX of GATT 1994 need not be demonstrated since the product under consideration (gray Portland cement) is not the subject of any Philippine obligation or tariff concession under the WTO Agreement. Nonetheless, such inquiry is governed by the national legislation (RA 8800) and the terms and conditions of the Agreement on Safeguards.
2. The collective output of the twelve (12) applicant companies constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of gray Portland cement and blended Portland cement.
3. Locally produced gray Portland cement and blended Portland cement (pozzolan) are "like" to imported gray Portland cement.
4. Gray Portland cement is being imported into the Philippines in increased quantities, both in absolute terms and relative to domestic production, starting in 2000. The increase in volume of imports is recent, sudden, sharp and significant.
5. The industry has not suffered and is not suffering significant overall impairment in its condition, i.e. serious injury.
6. There is no threat of serious injury that is imminent from imports of gray Portland cement.
7. Causation has become moot and academic in view of the negative determination of the elements of serious injury and imminent threat of serious injury.

Concluding that the elements of serious injury and imminent threat of serious injury not having been established, the Commission recommended that no definitive general safeguard measure be imposed on the importation of gray Portland cement.

After reviewing the Commission's report, the DTI has determined that it disagrees with the Commission's conclusions, specifically its failure to determine serious injury to the local cement industry and that a surge of imports was the cause thereof.

In view of this disagreement, the DTI sought to clarify the extent of the DTI Secretary's scope of options in acting on the Commission's recommendations. Thus, the DTI requested an opinion from the Department of Justice. The Department of Justice opined that the DTI is bound by the findings of the Tariff Commission:

> ***"The categorical and prohibitory language of the penultimate paragraph of section 13 (re negative final determination of the Commission), to our mind, precludes a review by the Secretary of a negative finding of the Commission.***

The DTI has no alternative but to abide by the Commission's recommendations.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, and in accordance with Section 13 of RA 8800 which states:

> ***"In the event of a negative final determination, or if the cash bond is in excess of the definitive safeguard duty assessed, the Secretary shall immediately issue, through the Secretary of Finance, a written instruction to the Commissioner of Customs, authorizing the return of the cash bond or the remainder thereof, as the case may be, previously collected as provisional general safeguard measure within ten (10) days from the date a final decision has been made: Provided, that the government shall not be liable for any interest on the amount to be returned. The Secretary shall not accept for consideration another petition from the same industry, with respect to the same imports of the product under consideration within one (1) year after the date of rendering such a decision."***

The DTI hereby issues the following:

The application for safeguard measures against the importation of gray Portland cement filed by PHILCEMCOR (Case No. 02-2001) is hereby denied.

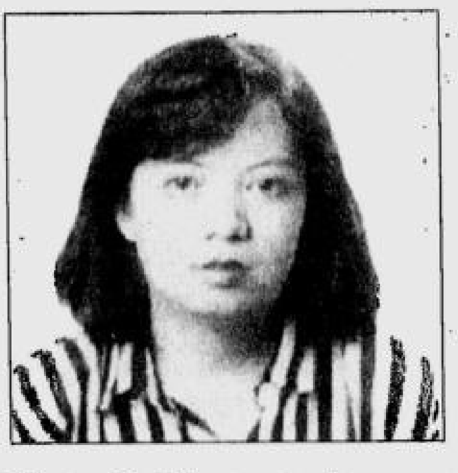
Let this Order be published in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

SO ORDERED.

05 April 2002

MAR ROXAS
Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



Ana Oliva A. Eraga whose picture appears above is no longer connected with **Jardine Land, Inc.** Her employment with the Company was terminated for a cause. Any transaction entered by her in behalf of Jardine Land, Inc. starting **March 3, 2002** will not be honored by the Company.

THE MANAGEMENT

(PDI - April 14, 2002)

2-DAY AUCTION SALE

Equipment formerly belonging to NEC Philippines (moved for convenience of sale)

HUGE QUANTITY OF TEST EQUIPMENT; LABORATORY EQUIPMENT; MICROSCOPES; PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT; LASER ENCODER MOTORS; SERVERS; COMPUTERS; OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT; STAINLESS STEEL PRODUCTION TABLES; TROLLEYS; CHAIRS; LOCKERS; CANTEEN EQUIPMENT, etc.
PLUS A LARGE INVENTORY OF UNUSED CONSUMABLES

MOST EQUIPMENT 1998 - 2001

IN OVER 4,000 LOTS INCLUDING:

TEST EQUIPMENT - TEKTRONIX (6) TDS 520A, TDS 11402A Digitalizing Oscilloscopes; (6) TEKTRONIX 2465B, IWATSU LEROY LC574AM Oscilloscopes; (2) IWATSU TS8500 Storage Scope, HP 1662ES Logic Analyzer; HP 8590A, ANRITSU MS2601B Spectrum Analyzers, RION KH02A Pulse Height Analyzers; HP 5384A Frequency Counter; HP 3324A Function Sweep Generator; SHIMADZU OPGU 2100S Hydrogen Generator, PLUS Asstd. AGILENT, SIMCO, TREK, SATO SIGMA, YOKOGAWA, HOIS, HAVAL, HARIBA, KETENCE, TOYO, NATIONAL, ANATEL, TECHNART - Contact the Auctioneers for further details

LABORATORY - DIONEX DX500, DX1-03100 Ion Chromatographs, SHIMADZU GC17A Gas Chromatograph w/ Mass Spectrometer; SHIMADZU GC-14B Gas Chromatograph; SHIMADZU MPS2000 Multi Purpose Recording Spectrophotometer; SHIMADZU AGS-H 5KN Bonding Force Measuring Machine; HIAC-ROYCO AB2 Liquid Particle Counter; KUBOTA 5400 Table Top Centrifuge; HITACHI E102 Ion Sputter; IASCO V-530 UV/VIS Spectrophotometer w/ Pump; IUCHI IC300 Incubator; PASOLINA IST-150 Autoclave, PLUS Asstd. Temperature Controllers; Ultrasonic Cleaners; Aspirators; Water Baths; Vacuum Pumps; Gas Analyzers; Digital/Beam Scales, Laboratory Glassware, etc.

MICROSCOPES - OLYMPUS S240 & SONY CCD Colour Video Camera w/ Video Printer & Monitor; (2) SONY TW-TL-15 Video Scopes; OLYMPUS S240 ESD w/ Power Supply; NIKON w/ HFX11 Polariod Black Film Metallurgical; A Large Qty. Of NIKON S2 Scopes w/ Stands; Asstd. Fiber Optic Lamp Systems; Transformers, etc.

LASER ENCODER MOTORS - (250+) CANON KP-1M (1999)

ULTRASONIC CLEANING - (2) CREST 8 Station Fully Automatic KERRY 5 Station, Fully Automatic

PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT - ORION KRX-1, (5) FUJI, (2) HIOS Vacuum Pumps; (3) HAKKO Soldering Controllers; ENDO Spring Balancers; Touch Panel Control Boxes; Acoustic Power Boxes; DENSEI Drive Controllers; SONY/COMMAX CCTV Monitors; KEYENCE Connectors; OMRON/COSEL Power Supplies; AIRNET/KANOMAX/KENWOOD Particle Counters; Asstd. SERVO Motors, Asstd. Pumps; Asstd. Transformers, etc.

FACTORY RACKING & FURNISHINGS - *Mezzanine* - Demountable Bolted Floor, 20.4m x 9.6m x 2.4m, (12) Bays Selective Racking w/ Cage, A Large Qty. Of Light Duty Boltless Selective Racking, (90+) Stainless Steel Floor Raises, (200+) Imported Stainless Steel Production Tables, (200+) Stainless Steel Mobile Racking Systems, A Large Qty. Of UCHIDA Personnel Lockers, Shoe Racks, (500+) Clean Room Production Chairs, IQ 310A Platform Scale, Asstd. (3/2) Fan Ionizers, Asstd. Storage Cabinets, etc.

FACTORY SECURITY - (3) GARRETT Magna Scanners 5500ml Maximum Tri-Precious Metal Walk Through Detectors

CONSUMABLES - Communication Cable, Clean Trays; Printer Rolls/Ribbons, Clean Room Gloves, Packaging Tape, Labels, Polyfilm, ESD Bags, Face Masks, Hairnets, etc.

INSPECTION EQUIPMENT - MITUTOYO Height Gauges, Leveling Jacks, Digital Dial Indicators, Asstd. Thread/Plug/Pin Gauges, Micometers, etc.

SERVERS - IBM Pentium III (2) RS6000 (3) RS5600; IBM Pentium II (2) 5540 Netfinity, (11) PC Server 330; (12) IBM Pentium PRO; (19) IBM RISCO System 6000; IBM 3570 Sub Tape System, etc.

PERSONAL COMPUTERS - Over 500 Asstd. Late Model High Cap. IBM, ACER, COMPAQ, NEC Personal Computers, (to 433mhz/9GB HDD) All w/ Keyboard Monitor & Mouse *Monitors & Printers* - Over 60 MITSUBISHI, IIVAMH, IMES, TFT LED Flat Screen, Over 50 TVS 10" SVGA, NEC Multi Sync 21 Pro 21" Printers - Asstd. NEC, CANON, HEWLETT PACKARD, EPSON Laser, Ink Jet, Dot Matrix Printers *HDD Computer Cards & Accessories* - IBM 9.6GB HDD; Over 10 IBM SCSI HDD; Asstd. SCSI Adaptor Cabls; BUFFALO 4.3GB Ext. HDD; ADAPTEC SCSI Cards - All Unused; Asstd. HP/ BAY NETWORKS/CISCO SYSTEMS Ethernet Hubs, etc.

BAR CODE READING & PRINTING - Over 400 PANASONIC/OENSAI Readers, Over 30 AUTONICS PC-12 WMV, BC-12m, BC-8 MKIII Printers; Asstd EPSON Printers

CANTEEN - Complete Stainless Steel Serving Counter w/ Rail; DASEN Six/ Four Door Stainless Steel Ref/Freezers, HOSHIZAKI Ice Maker; Asstd. Food Stainless Steel Preparation Tables; Asstd. Shelf Units; Asstd. Washing Stations; Asstd One/Two/Three Ring Gas Burners; (100+) Monoblock Canteen Tables; (600+) Monoblock Stools; A Large Qty. Of Canteen Utensils/ Dinnerware, etc.

OFFICE FURNITURE - (80+) Two/Three Drawer Pedestal Units; OKAMURA/ UCHIDA Computer Tables; (60+) Three Drawer Steel Lateral Filing Cabinets; (100+) Fabric Upholstered Clerical/Guest/Executive Chairs; Asstd. Single/ Double Pedestal LAMEX Type Office Desks, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS - PHILIPS 32" Colour Television; 3M Overhead Projectors; Asstd Telephone Hand Sets; CONDURA/TOSHIBA/NATIONAL Refrigerators; Asstd. Bundy/Wall Clocks, etc.

AT: FILSYN COMPOUND, STA. ROSA, LAGUNA, PHILIPPINES
ON: FRIDAY, 19TH & SATURDAY, 20TH APRIL 2002- 10:30AM PROMPT
ON VIEW: WEDNESDAY, 17TH & THURSDAY 18TH APRIL 2002, 9:00AM - 6:00PM & MORNING OF SALE DAY
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Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
National Capital Judicial Region
City of Makati
Branch 60

AMERICAN HOMES ASSURANCE CO.,
Plaintiff,
- versus -
INTERNATIONAL TOWAGE & TRANSPORT CORP.,
Defendant.
x--x

CIVIL CASE NO. 91-1043
WRIT OF EXECUTION

NOTICE OF SALE
(Amended)

WHEREAS, by virtue of the Writ of Execution dated January 17, 2002 issued in the above-entitled case wherein AMERICAN HOMES ASSURANCE CO. is the plaintiff and INTERNATIONAL TOWAGE & TRANSPORT CORP. is the defendant and for the recovery of the sum of P1,917,915.81 - representing the amount paid by the plaintiff-appellee to Mobil Philippines, Inc.; Six (6%) percent of P1,917,915.81 per annum from February 14, 1991 until the same amount is fully paid as damages; Twenty-Five (25%) percent of P1,917,915.81 as attorney's fees. LEVY is hereby made upon the personal properties described below:

BARGE ITTC - 606	BARGE ITTC - 707
type of service - Towing	type of service - Towing
Length 34.15 meters	Length 34.15 meters
Gross Ton - 335.58	Gross Ton - 335.58
year built 1980	year built 1980

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the Writ of Execution and in accordance with the provisions of Section 15, Rule 39 of the RULES OF COURT of the Philippines, the Ex-Officio Sheriff of Makati City thru the undersigned Sheriff IV hereby gives notice to all interested parties and to the public in general that on 19 April 2002 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter; at No. 2868 Lamayan St., Sta. Ana, Manila, the undersigned will sell at public auction to the highest bidder and for CASH (Philippine Currency) the above-described properties to satisfy the full amount of the execution and all lawful expenses of the execution sale.

Prospective buyers and bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the properties described.

City of Makati, April 12, 2002.

FOR THE EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF
OF MAKATI
ORIGINAL SIGNED
By: ALEXANDER D. VILLANUEVA
Sheriff IV

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to REMOVE or DESTROY this Notice of Sale on or before the auction date.

contact person : Atty. A. Palacios
tel. 721-7290
fax. 722-4850

(PDI--April 14, 2002)

Tsuneishi Heavy Industries (Cebu), Inc.
West Cebu Industrial Park - SEZ
Buanoy, Balamban, Cebu

☞ WE ARE MOVING:

Effective **April 22, 2002** THICI Cebu office will be transferring to it's new office located at the:

10th Floor Keppel Center Condominium,
Samar Loop Cor. Cardinal Rosales Avenue,
Cebu Business Park
Cebu City, Philippines
6000

☞ OUR NEW NUMBERS:

THICI *Balamban* Telephone Numbers:

TMSI LINES
032-333-2228 or 032-333-2292 up to 95

ISLACOM LINES
465-0013 up to 18

PLDT LINES
032-231-6035, 032-231-9894,
032-234-0313 to 14

Fax Numbers:

032-234-0311	(Purchasing Fax Line)
032-234-0312	(Ship Repair Fax Line)
032-333-2230	(Admin. Fax Line)
032-333-2229	(Ship Sales Fax Line)

THICI Cebu Office Telephone Numbers:

PLDT LINES
032-231-2299, 032-231-9893, 032-231-7115
032-231-9234, 032-231-9235, 032-231-1576

Fax Number:
032-231-9233

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
MAYNILA, PILIPINAS

AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR PICC PROJECTS

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) would like to invite all interested contractors to apply for prequalification and if later prequalified, to bid for the project described below.

Project Title : Rehabilitation of Glass Globules (Lighting Fixtures) Support Frame and Connections at the PICC Reception Hall

Scope of Work : Work includes furnishing of all materials, labor, tools, equipment, services and other incidentals required for, (a) dismantling/rehabilitation and re-installation of lighting fixtures (glass globules); (b) hauling of dismantled glass globules to designated PICC areas; (c) cleaning of interior and exterior portions of the glass globules; (d) fabrication of Ga. 12 stainless steel (2.78 mm thk.) sleeve; (e) other necessary works to complete the work according to the approved plans and specifications of the contract

Minimum Requirement (criteria):

a. The Contractor should have completed at least two (2) projects of similar nature or of greater complexity for the past five (5) years, each costing not less than One Million Six Hundred Thousand Pesos (P1,600,000.00).
b. The contractor must have an accessible warehouse/workshop with minimum storage area of at least 150 sq.m.
c. The Contractor should have a net contracting capacity of at least P8,000,000.00 computed as follows: NFCC = 10 x (Current Assets minus Current Liabilities) - (value of all Outstanding works under on-going contracts including awarded contracts yet to be started).

Prequalification documents may be obtained at a cost of two hundred pesos per set (P200.00/set) from AHCPP Secretariat, Room 204, 2nd Floor - Five Storey Building BSP Complex A. Mabini corner P. Ocampo Streets, Manila. Date and time of issuance is from **April 15, 2002** until **April 25, 2002**, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 nn. Deadline of submission of accomplished Prequalification Documents is on **April 29, 2002** / 4:00 p.m.

Notice of Prequalification / Predisqualification shall be issued on **May 10, 2002** 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 nn at the AHCPP Secretariat together with the issuance of Bid/ Tender Documents to prequalified contractors upon payment of the non-refundable cost of the documents (P2,000.00/set).

For inquiries, please call AHCPP Secretariat at Tel. No. 524-7011 local 3143 (look for Ms. Amelia Pagalunan).

Guidelines stipulated in the provisions of Executive Order No. 262 Series of 2000 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, as amended and other applicable rules and regulations shall apply to prequalification, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract.

BSP reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any defect or formality therein, or accept such bid or award or any part thereof to any contractor/s whose bid/s is/are evaluated to be most advantageous to BSP. Furthermore, BSP is not obligated to compensate/indemnify the contractor for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids nor does it guarantee that an award of contract will be made.

(Sgd.) **VICENTE B. VALDEPEÑAS, JR.**
Chairman

(Sgd.) **JUAN QUINTOS, JR.**
Co-Chairman

(PDI - April 14 & 22 2002)

LUNG CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES
Quezon Avenue, Quezon City 1100
PHILIPPINES
Tel. +63 (2) 924-6101
Fax: +63 (2) 924-0707 / 925-2021
Email: <lungctr@impactnet.com>

The Lung Center of the Philippines, Department of Pulmonary Medicine is now accepting applications for Fellowship Training in Pulmonary Medicine for July 2002.

Applicants must be PCP Diplomates. Application forms are available at the Medical Staff Office, 2nd Floor (Look for Norma Aveño). Deadline for submission of application is **April 30, 2002**. Schedule for written qualifying examination will be announced later.

(PDI - April 14 2002)

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT ONCE.

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

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The Chairman, Board of Directors, Officers and Employees
of the

Manila Electric Company

announce with deep sorrow the demise of their former President
who headed the company from March 1979 to February 1986

MARIO D. CAMACHO

who passed away in the Grace of our Lord on April 12, 2002. He was 66.

We request the pious readers and friends to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the
St. Jerome and Sta. Susanna Multi-Purpose Hall, Commerce Ave., Ayala Alabang.
Burial is Tuesday, April 16 at Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Paranaque
after the 2 p.m. mass.

MERALCO

A Message of Thanks

From the Family of the Late

HILARIA B. GALURA

*who was called home by our Heavenly Father
on March 27, 2002.*

Your presence, Mass and prayer offerings, messages of sympathy, thoughtful deeds, donations, flowers, and emotional support have made us realize that our **MAMA** has left a legacy of love among families, relatives, and friends.

To the **Toastmasters**, thank you for the loving tribute you gave our MAMA, your Mommy, your Tita, and your Ate. As you said, "HER LIFE WAS HER GREATEST SPEECH".

To **Chief** (†) and **Nanay Curing Ramos** and children, colleagues and friends at work, our **MAMA** treasured her 45 years with you all. Talagang laking National Book Store!

Sincerely yours,

Husband **Atty. Dominador L. Galura**; children **Dante** and **Terry, Diane** and **Banji, Dino** and **Peachy**; her brothers and sisters, grandchildren and relatives.

*"Sorrow can never conquer
Nor grief turn to despair
When there are others who care."*
George Webster Douglas

"Whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life"
(JOHN 3:10)

ENGR. VICENTE CHUA LIMQUECO, JR.

*Peacefully joined his Savior on April 13, 2002
at the age of 61.*

His loving parents **VICENTE, SR.** and **MARY**; his dearest wife **LILY**; children **MARY JENNIFER**, **MARY JOAN** and **TAUTI**, **LAWRENCE**, **LANCELOT**, and **JANET** (†); brother and sisters **TITA** and **JOSEPH**, **LINDA**, **WILLIAM** and **LORNA**, and **AURORA**; nieces and nephews; other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be at Tuguegarao, Cagayan Valley. Date will be announced later.

WE DESIGN OBITUARIES FOR FREE.

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• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS •

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ① Copy of Death Certificate ② Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it so much as dawned on man what God has prepared for those who love Him.

I Corinthians 2:9

SVI
CORPORATION

Mario Dimapilis Camacho

21 October 1935 - 12 April 2002

Chairman, Software Ventures International Group of Companies

We are grateful for Mario's life. We shared his zest for life, his love and laughter. He had deep faith in God and in the people whom he helped, inspired and enlivened. We thank him for his stewardship and his friendship.

With the Camacho family, we celebrate his return to the loving embrace of our Father.

His mortal remains lie in state at the St. Jerome Church, Ayala Town Center, Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

Interment is on Tuesday, April 16, 2002 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 2:00 PM Mass.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the University of Asia and the Pacific Foundation in behalf of Mario D. Camacho, will be appreciated.

Our Dearly Beloved

Sir Knight Mario D. Camacho

Pontifical Order of St. Gregory the Great

October 21, 1935 - April 12, 2002

Has peacefully joined our Creator on April 12, 2002
at the age of 66.

His bereaved wife **Rica**; children **Gil** and **Yvonne**, **Kit**, **Daniel** and **Grace**; grandchildren **Katrina Danielle** and **Jose Mario**; his mother **Rita Camacho**; brothers and sisters **Estelita** and **Ramon** (†), **Pablo** and **Cynthia**, **Danilo** and **Angela**, **Zenaida** and **Rosauro**; his mother-in-law **Imelda Dayrit**; brothers and sisters-in-law **Teresita** and **Jose** (†), **Amelita** and **Cards**, **Manuel** and **Erlinda**, **Carmen** and **Luis** (†); relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the St. Jerome Church, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa.

Interment will be on Tuesday, April 16, 2002 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at St. Jerome Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to
University of Asia and the Pacific Foundation, Inc.

We, the family of the late

Rico Yan

extend our deepest gratitude and sincerest appreciation
to all those who, in countless and immeasurable ways,
condoled with us and comforted us
in our moment of grief.

*"Many are the plans in a man's heart but it is
the Lord's purpose that prevails."*

May the knowledge that our beloved,
Rico,
is now in the warm embrace of our Heavenly Father
fill our void with love and peace.

---

*The Stockholders, Board of Directors,
Trading Participants, Officers and Staff of*

THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE, INC.

*Announce with deep sorrow,
the demise of our beloved
Director*

MARIO D. CAMACHO

*who peacefully joined his Creator
on April 12, 2002 at the age of 66*

GENEROSO Q. MAGCALAS

*Joined his Saviour on April 12, 2002
at the age of 69.*

His loving wife **Meding** (†); sons **Ador, Ben, Celso, Dante, Ed** and **Flo**; brothers **Dading** (†), **Narcing, Lino** (†) and **Carding**; sister **Viring** mourn his passing away and celebrate his eternal rest with the Lord Jesus.

His remains lie in state at Arlington East The Garden Chapels, C. Raymundo Avenue, corner Mercedes Avenue, Pasig City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, April 17, 2002, 3:00 p.m. at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

RODRIGO ESPAÑOLA YNCHAUSTI

Peacefully joined his Creator on April 7, 2002 at the age of 77.

We, his wife MONINA; children **REYNE & ELLIE, IKE & CHAI, EMIL & EMILY, LYNN & TIRSO CRUZ III**; grandchildren **MAUREEN, NINA & ARNOLD, MERVIN, BABY, PAO, KIM, MIC2, TOPE & LEAH, SHELAH, RODNEY, TJ, BODIE & DJANIN**; great grandchildren **JOSHUA & AMIEL**; and other love ones, request you to join us in celebrating his coming home to the Lord.

His remains lie in state at Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Sucat Road, Parañaque.

Interment will be on Tuesday, April 16, 2002 at the Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque after the 1 p.m. Worship Service.

**Whoever
finds
his life
will
lose it,
and
whoever
loses
his life
for my
sake
will
find it.**

Matthew 10:39

CARLOS P.
RAYOS DEL SOL

of SOL WOODCRAFT
June 13, 1940 - April 10, 2002

His remains lie in state at their residence at 79-A Mahinhin Street, Sto. Niño, Taytay, Rizal.

Interment will be at Taytay Municipal Cemetery on Tuesday, April 16, 2002 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

Dr. Cornelio "Nel" B. Bandao

*Peacefully joined our Creator
on April 4, 2002 at the age of 64.*

His bereaved family, relatives and friends
request the pious readers to pray for
the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains will lie in state at
Lagawe (Bayucan), Ifugao.

Interment is set on Friday,
April 19, 2002.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

**DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN**

Carmen de la Rama Veto

June 5, 1923

Died in the Grace of the Lord on 12 April 2002 after receiving the last sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church.

She is survived by her loving husband **WILLIAM R. VETO**; children **FRANCIS & RICA VETO, VIVIAN, NANCY & MILTON WONG, FILOMENA, WILLIAM, JR. & ASUNCION**; grandchildren **KRISTOFFER, MARIA CONSUELO, MATTHEW, TERRENCE, GRACE-ANN**; great granddaughter **ATHENA ANGELA**; brothers **FELIXBERTO** and **JUANITO de la RAMA**; sisters **LILIA R. TACARDON** and **ANGELES R. LOPEZ**; cousins; nephews & nieces; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at the SANTA MARIA DELA STRADA PARISH MORTUARY along Katipunan Avenue, up to April 15, 2002, after which she will be brought to Bacolod and will be buried at the de la RAMA Family Cemetery on April 20, 2002.

Our Most Beloved

Lori Anne Aguirre-Dayanghirang

of Davao City

Has rejoined her Creator on April 12, 2002
six days short of her 46th birthday.

Her bereaved husband **Gico** and children Doy, Gino and Elvin; brothers, sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces **Rene** and **Angie Aguirre** and children Rhea, Arlette, Sonny, and Anthony; **Melanie** and **Paul Aquino** and children Dennis, Pevee and Rezel and Julio, and Bam; **Ariel** and **Lynn Aguirre** and children Dodjie, Dino, Archie and Mayen; **Arlene** and **Tonton Avelino** and daughter Abbey; and **Lady Vee** request your prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Cosmopolitan Funeral Homes, J. Camus and Abad Santos Avenue, Davao City.

Interment is on Tuesday, April 16, 2002 after the 9:00 AM Mass at the Davao Memorial Park Chapel.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family and relatives of the late

REMEDIOS ANGELES-REYES

(January 28, 1918 - March 28, 2002)

who died on March 28, 2002, at age 84 and whose remains were interred at the La Loma Cemetery on April 2, 2002, wish to convey their profound thanks to those who sympathized with them and who in one way or another condoled with them in their hour of bereavement.

We know that God raised the Lord Jesus from death. He will raise us to life with Jesus. He will present us, along with you, to God.

2 Corinthians 4:14

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

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• DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN •

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143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City;
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79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City; Tel. (074) 443-3337; (074) 442-3117
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438 Cementina St., Pasay City; Tels. 831-1204
Sucat Branch: 8187 Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque City
Tels. 826-1376; 826-9682; (0915) 712-1220
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park, Makati City; Tel. Nos. 843-8838/30; Fax No. 843-9223
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City; Telefax 724-4139; 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City; Tels. 852-8228; 852-7284
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16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila; Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
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296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City; Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286/87
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Tels. 831-3797; 844-7846; 843-1801; 845-4836
WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1511 Gen. Luna St., Paco, Manila; Tels. 522-8846; 522-9438; 400-5394

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

Elena "Nena" Talao Lopez

August 13, 1923 - April 12, 2002

Has joined her Creator
on April 12, 2002 at the age of 78,
after receiving the last Sacraments.

Her husband **Peping**; children **Toni, Cleo, Teresa, Joey & Wahoo**; in-laws **Eric Meyer, Nelson Chengapa, Jean-Yves Houvet, Grace Generao-Lopez, Ricky Valdez**; grandchildren, brother **Tony** and relatives request your prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

A gathering of relatives & friends has been arranged on Saturday, April 20, 2002 at St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori Chapel, Magallanes Village, Makati City from 1 - 5 p.m. Her ashes will be blessed at Holy Mass celebration at 5 p.m.

Could we judge all deeds by motives;
See the good and bad within,
Often we should love the sinner,
All the while we loathe the sin.

Kipling

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

"Thank you, see You in heaven"
Nanay Inggay

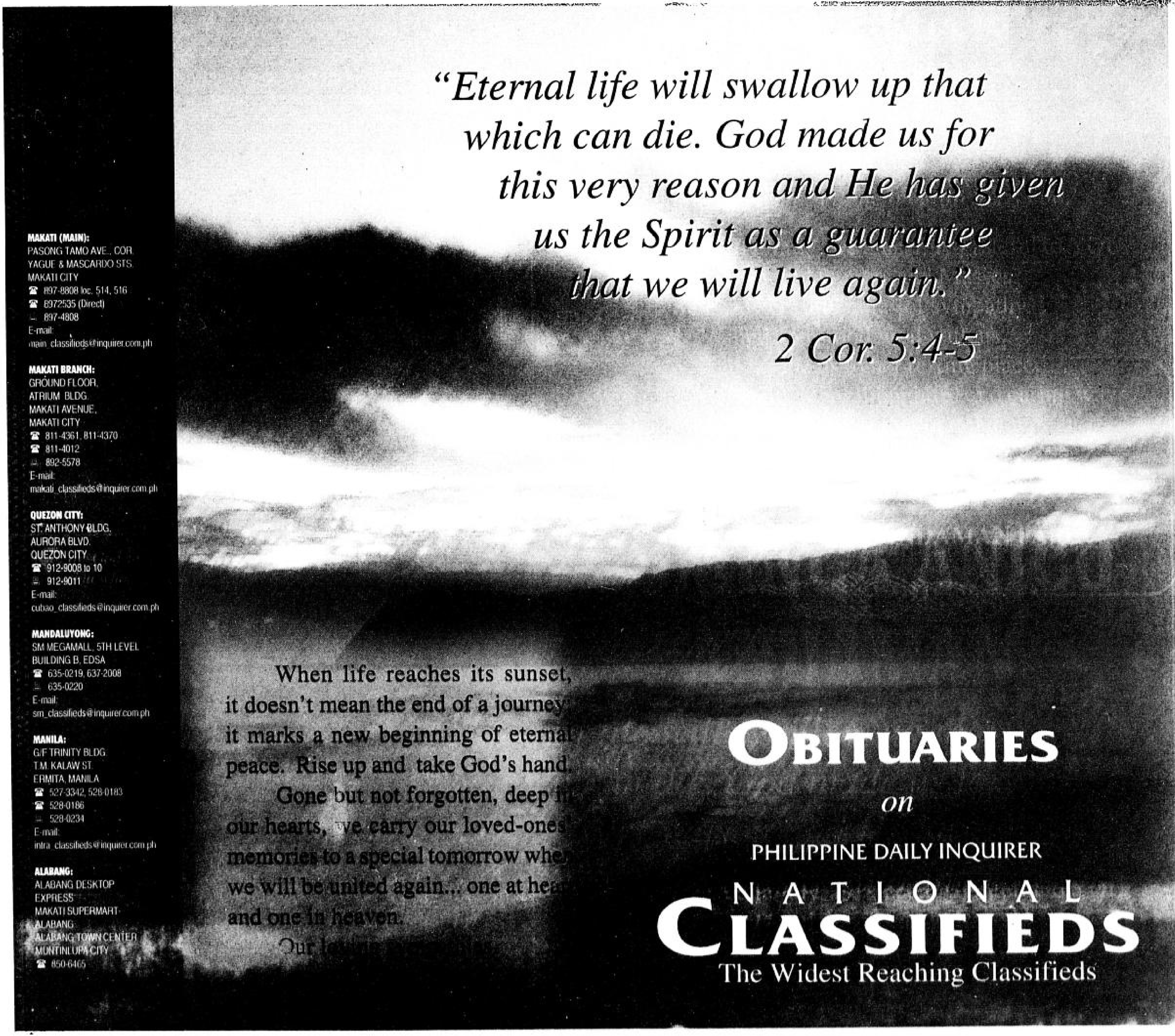
DOMINGA ANICO ANDAMAN

Founder and Treasurer
ST. DOMINIC MEDICAL CENTER, Bacoor, Cavite
and Bucal, Maragondon, Cavite

Was born to an eternal life on March 27, 2002.

We, the bereaved family, are sincerely grateful to YOU,
Who offered prayers and Masses,
Sent flowers and notes of sympathy,
Visited and stood vigil with us,
Walked beside us to her resting place,
Gave support in many other thoughtful and caring ways,
Who in one way or the other condoled with us
and helped ease the pain of
Giving HER away...

ANDAMAN FAMILY



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"Eternal life will swallow up that
which can die. God made us for
this very reason and He has given
us the Spirit as a guarantee
that we will live again."
2 Cor. 5:4-5

When life reaches its sunset, it doesn't mean the end of a journey it marks a new beginning of eternal peace. Rise up and take God's hand.

Gone but not forgotten, deep i our hearts, we carry our loved-ones memories to a special tomorrow whe we will be united again... one at hea and one in heaven.

Our lo

OBITUARIES
on
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
NATIONAL
CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Reaching Classifieds

A reward shall be given to any information that would lead to the arrest, apprehension and eventual conviction of the following person.

1. Name : **JAMES YAPOYCO**
Address : Blk. 9, Lot. 18, Phase II, Soldier Hills IV, Molino Bacoor, Cavite
Case Title & Case No.
People of the Phils. vs. James Yapoyco
Criminal Case No. 48914 - 15 Presently pending in the Metropolitan Trial Court, Las Piñas City
Branch LXXIX
For BP 22
Status : **Warrant of Arrest Issued**

2. Name : **JEAN BARCALA CASTILLO**
Address : Blk. 7, Lot. 4, Juan Luna Avenue, Crysthemum Village, San Pedro, Laguna
Case Title & Case No.
People of the Phils. vs. Jean Barcala Castillo
Criminal Case No. 1048 Presently pending in the Municipal Trial Court in Cities, Trece Martires City
For BP 22
Status : **Warrant of Arrest Issued**

3. Name : **JENNY MANANSALA**
Address : 556 Mangoostine Street, Ayala Alabang Metro Manila
Case Title & Case No.
People of the Phils. vs. Jenny Manansala
Criminal Case No. 1133 Presently pending in the Municipal Trial Court in Cities, Trece Martires City
For BP 22
Status : **Warrant of Arrest Issued**

4. Name : **Dra. MELINDA BALMACEDA, M.D.**
Address : 31 Anahaw Street, Project 7, Quezon City
Former Add. : Department of Health, Manila
Case Title & Case No.
People of the Phils. vs. Dra. Melinda Balmaceda
Criminal.Case No. 95 144905 pending in the Regional Trial Court, Branch 8, Manila
Status : **Jumped Bail**

5. Name : **AGNES DUNGCA**
Address : No. 50 Ortigas Avenue, Rosario, Pasig City
Case Title & Case No.
People of the Phils. vs. Agnes Dungca
Criminal Case No. 1147; 1158 and 1159 Presenting pending in the Municipal Trial Court in Cities, Trece Martires City
For BP 22
Status : **Warrant of Arrest Issued**

6. Name : **ROBERTO GUNDAYAO**
Address : Guilleza Construction, No. 34 Unit Chestnut Street, Fairview, Quezon City
Case Title & Case No.
People of the Phils. vs. Roberto Gundayao
Criminal Case No. 1059 Presently pending in the Municipal Trial Court in Cities, Trece Martires City
For BP 22
Status : **Warrant of Arrest Issued**

7. Name : **TEDDY MACK**
Address : Claritas 1-C, San Vicente San Pedro, Laguna
Case Title & Case No.
People of the Phils. vs. Teddy Mack
Criminal Case No. 363-2000 Presently pending in the Municipal Trial Court in Cities, Cavite City
Branch 1
For BP 22
Status : **Warrant of Arrest Issued**

8. Name : **Dra. MELINDA BALMACEDA, M.D.**
Address : 31 Anahaw Street, Project 7, Quezon City
Former Add : Department of Health, Manila
Case Title & Case No.
People of the Phils. vs. Dra. Melinda Balmaceda
In Criminal Case No. 215160-CR pending in the Regional Trial Court, Branch 8, Manila
Status : **Promulgation of Decision**

Please call: MS. JENY ROSE MOOG & MS. LEONISA C. PEREZ
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(046) 419-1413

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

JOSE ENRIQUE F. MARFORI
a.k.a. "JOEY"

Notice is hereby given that a case for violation of the **Bouncing Checks Law** has been filed with the **City Prosecution Office of Makati City under I. S. No. 02-05004 to 06** against **JOSE ENRIQUE F. MARFORI** *a.k.a.* **"JOEY"** whose pictures appear in this notice and whose last known address is **100 President's Avenue, Teoville Subdivision, Paranque City.**

Any and all persons who may have been issued **Bouncing Checks** by said **Joey Marfori** are requested to call **Cellphone No. 0917-463-6955** for the filing of the appropriate criminal case against him.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that Ms. Asuncion C. Tumang, Ms. Estela D. Lagamayo, and Ms. Marites B. Columna whose photographs appear below, are no longer connected with **THE INSULAR LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.**, as of the date indicated under their names and any transactions they made for and in behalf of the Company on or after the said dates shall not be honored.

NO PICTURE

ASUNCION C. TUMANG
Peace St., St. Anthony Subd.
Dolores, San Fernando
Pampanga
30 June 2001

ESTELA D. LAGAMAYO
432 Brgy. Poblacion, Bacon
Sorsogon
23 April 2001

MARITES B. COLUMNA
Purok 3 Baranghawung
Tabaco, Albay
23 April 2001

(PDI – Apr. 14, 2002)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that Provisional Receipt Booklet Series No. **138905** to **138950** of **Vibal Publishing House, Inc.** has been declared lost.

Please do not honor the above-mentioned Provisional Receipts when presented.

(PDI - April 14, 2002)

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by Dr. Romeo Toledo of the University of Georgia
April 24-25, 2002 (8-5pm); UP Diliman Home Eco

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SY de Leon/Erinn Pengson/Lara Vivas: 411-5743/45

People, Events & Products

Aries Espinosa, Editor

SM Star Club search ongoing until Monday

IT'S TIME for cute, smart, and talented kids to shine again as the SM Supermalls launches its annual Star Club search.

Open to kids four to seven years of age, the contest not only offers great prizes, but also gives kids a chance to discover the star quality in each of them. The SM Star Club search has also proven to be a stepping-stone to bigger things, like what happened to last year's winners Miguel Avila and Shannah Audree Caratiquet.

Miguel, 7, a first grader at La Salle Greenhills, has modeled for several brands and has seen his star shine in what he does best—singing. Miguel has been asked to sing as a member of the Kids of the Nation and at several weddngs. During a recent wedding attended by President Gloria Macapagal-Arrbyo, he charmed the President as he sang "Ikaw" and got to even meet and have a photo taken with her.

Despite his many activities, Miguel is also a star student, and recently bagged a gold medal in an elocution contest in his school. He plans to work on his acting skills this summer when he enrolls in theatre and acting workshops.

Like Miguel, Shanna, also 7, loves singing and is now taking classical voice tutorials twice a week in the UP College of Music. During last year's Search for the Singing Princess at the SM Supermalls, Shanna wowed the audience with her rendition of "Part of Your World" from "The Little Mermaid", and bagged the grand prize.

Moreover, she has signed a recording contract with Viva and has been invited to do storytelling sessions at the National Bookstore.

Kids can be a star like Miguel and Shanna and get a chance to develop their talent and confidence in the SM Star Club search. Submission of entries is ongoing at all SM Supermalls until April 15. The announcement of the finalists will be on May 1 and the grand finals will take place at the SM Megamall Atrium on May 31.

The SM Star Club 2002 search is sponsored by Fruitips, Casio, Garfield Jeans and Sportswear, and Philamlife. Other sponsors include Junior Inquirer, Storyland, Kids at Play, Moose Gear, Toy Kingdom, Informatics, Air Philippines, Discovery Suites, Castle Park Hotel Cebu, Centennial Plaza Hotel Iloilo, Royal Mandaya Hotel Davao, Family Reader, Kiddie Magazine, Monster Radio RX 93.1, and Magic 89.9.

CUTE and talented Star Club winner Shannah Audree Caratiquet recently signed a recording contract with Viva

STAR Club 2001 winner Miguel Aguila is busy with modeling and singing projects

HEADWAY'S HEAD START FOR THE GIFTED

If your child is an advanced learner and has special talents, enroll him or her at Headway School for Giftedness. It specializes in developing the unique learning abilities of students and nurturing their special talents. The school curriculum goes beyond the traditional and offers other programs such as mentorship, leadership training, opportunity and enrichment classes, social skills training, and parent education. This ensures that all learning abilities and experiences of the child are geared toward his or her full development. Shown is Luz Estudillo, Headway School for Giftedness Inc. directress and founder, with Liz Robinson and Mary R. Keller from the Gifted Education Section of the Department of Education of Melbourne, Australia. Robinson and Keller are consultants of Headway. The Headway School for Giftedness is at 130 Matahimik Street, UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, with telephone numbers 922-4541, 925-3890, and 921-7612. Enrolment for kindergarten and prep levels, Grades I to IV are ongoing.

AMA Education System executive appointments

BANGCOLA

RIOVEROS

AMA Education System, the first and largest IT-based education provider in Asia, is on its bid to expand globally and correspondingly announces the appointments of Karim L. Bangcola and Ernesto A. Rioveros as its new executive vice presidents, replacing Manuel F. Abad who resigned from the same post early this year.

Both respected academicians, IT professionals and topnotch business leaders, Bangcola handles the National Capital Region and North Luzon operations, while Rioveros handles the South Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao operations.

Bangcola and Rioveros have been in Amaes service for the past 19 and 20 years, respectively. These two top executives, after Dr. Amable R. Aguiluz V (Amaes founder and chair), are accounted for the company's growing success and dominance in the education industry.

Norwegian Maritime Academy to produce dollar-earning seafarers

THE NORWEGIAN Maritime Academy (NMA) is the latest addition to the growing educational services being offered by the AMA Education System (Amaes). It offers state-of-the-art nautical facilities, experienced and professional faculty, international maritime affiliations and technology-oriented curricula to respond to the growing dependence of the world maritime industry on computers and other emerging technologies.

The students of NMA are guaranteed to learn the most updated trade theories and actual ship-board skills from NMA faculty who are maritime officers themselves and active business practitioners in the shipping industry.

Its academic programs are generally information and technology-based and are designed in accordance with the regulations of the Technological Education and Skill Development Authority (Tesda) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and in conformance with the standards of the Maritime Training Council (MTC) and the International Maritime Organization-Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (IMO-STCW) for seafarers.

"Almost everything has gone electronic, automated and computerized in the maritime operations, and so NMA was instituted to produce world-class seafarers who are not only adept in both academics and in practice, but also technologically competent. Being associated with the Amaes, an ISO-certified and the first and largest IT-based educational institution, the students will enjoy the cutting-edge benefits of its international affiliations with leading IT giants like Microsoft, Avaya Communications, Cisco Systems, NCC-UK, Festo, SmartForce," said Pat[illegible] Azanza, COO of NMA.

This new maritime school offers courses in BS Marine Transportation, BS Marine Engineering, and Seafarers Rating Course in Deck, Engine, and Steward Departments. Since its course offerings are globally recognized, its students are assured of a dollar-earning employment immediately after graduation.

"Technology is fast changing the way seafarers operate on board, thus we want our students to be abreast of new-age maritime technology, particularly in international maritime operations, to earn for themselves a high-paying, dollar-earning career in the maritime industry after they graduate," added Azanza.

The [illegible] in Manila, Mariki[illegible], Batangas [illegible] Iloilo, while campuses in [illegible] Cebu, Ba[illegible] open soon.

SUMMER FUN WITH MILO SPORTS

Nobody wants a boring summer, to be sure. Make it special. Get into a sports clinic. It could change your life. You will be coached by professional trainers who have extensive experience in their particular sport. You will meet new friends, acquire more advanced skills, develop good habits and attitudes such as discipline, respect, perseverance, and confidence. And you just might become famous one day. This is what happened to the likes of [illegible] Ren-Ron Ritualo, tennis hero Johnny [illegible] champ John Paul Lizardo, [illegible] Emmanuel Emperado. They are all products of the Milo Summer Sports Clinics. Milo helped them become the winners that they are. You could be like them. Milo, the pioneer and biggest name in sponsoring sports clinics, is again holding its Milo Summer Sports Clinics Program. This year, Milo offers 14 sports: basketball, lawn tennis, swimming, volleyball, taekwondo, badminton, karatedo, gymnastics, squash, football, bowling, ice skating, chess, and table tennis. The clinics run until end of May. First set-up in 1982, the nationwide Milo Summer Sports Clinics is recognized by the DECS, the POC, and the PSC.

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• Prices start from US$66,000 • The Tower (542-1895 sq.ft.) Studio & 3 bedroom units • Prima Regency (1050-2246 sq.ft.) 3 bedroom units • Luxury clubhouse

Exhibit Dates: April 13-15, 2002 Time: 9am-6pm
Venue: Fontaine Room, The Mandarin Oriental Manila, Makati City
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(PDI-April 7, 14 & 21 2002)

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT
Holy Spirit thou who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I in this short dia logue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires maybe. I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your Perpetual Glory Amen.
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[illegible]175401446

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Prime Prop.
2nd Bldg Fr Mktl Ave 4 Stry Bldg / Comm'l Resd'l Flr 150m^2 x 4 = 600m^2 P14M Call Noel 5310648/ 0917-5295156

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LA115m^2 FA345m^2 7898612
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East Rd CL619 NOVALICHES
IL3ha QUIRINO HW IL13ha
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150sqm 2BR 2TB 776-4676

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72m^2 P3M Dagupan St., Tondo near Tutuban Ctr Call 0917-8354515

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Grnind bnew 3br 2M 9487112

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Rush! Calumpang LA 293 2BR+1TB 0917-2429078

PARANAQUE

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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LOW Down Payment · EASY Terms · IN-HOUSE Financing · FIXED INTEREST 15 Years to Pay

#	Prop. Type/Class		[illegible] Property	Location	Area sqm.	Minimum Bid
			BAGUIO CITY			
1	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 4 Road Lot 7 Eagle Crest Villa	Ph I, Bakakeng Road, Baguio City	115	1,931,000.00
2	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 5 Road Lot 7 Eagle Crest Villa	Ph I, Bakakeng Road., Baguio City	123.5	2,073,500.00
3	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 6 Road Lot 7 Eagle Crest Villa	Ph I, Bakakeng Road, Baguio City	145.5	2,443,000.00
4	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 1 Road Lot 7 Eagle Crest Villa	Ph I, Bakakeng Road., Baguio City	160	2,686,500.00
5	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 2 Road Lot 7 Eagle Crest Villa	Ph I, Bakakeng Road., Baguio City	129	2,166,000.00
6	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 2 Blk 6 Rd 6 Eagle Crest Villa	Ph II, Bakakeng Road., Baguio City	150	2,213,000.00
7	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 4 Blk 6 Rd 6 Eagle Crest Villa	Ph II, Bakakeng Road., Baguio City	150	2,213,000.00
8	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Alpha Vill, Bgy. Loakan	Baguio City	338	797,500.00
9	Lot & Bldg	Resl	116 Long-long Road, Bgy Puguis	La Trinidad, Benguet	1,647	10,898,800.00
			BULACAN			
10	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 24 Blk 1 Dilain St., Valarao Subd.	Angat, Bulacan	260	1,397,500.00
11	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Borol 1st	Balagtas, Bulacan	334	3,156,500.00
12	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Sampaguita St., San Juan	Balagtas, Bulacan	1,667	3,234,500.00
13	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 14-A Pe-Mills Subd. Panginay	Balagtas, Bulacan	50	239,500.00
14	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Delos Angeles St. Ext., Virgen de los	Flores, Baliwag, Bulacan	1,444	2,128,000.00
15	Lot	Resl	Lot 25 Blk 1 Carmela Homes	Bo. Sabang, Baliuag, Bulacan	144	342,000.00
16	Lot	Resl	Lot 33 Blk 1 Carmela Homes	Bo. Sabang, Baliuag, Bulacan	120	285,000.00
17	Lot	Resl	Lot 41 Blk 1 Carmela Homes	Bo. Sabang, Baliuag, Bulacan	120	285,000.00
18	Lot	Resl	Lot 51 Blk 1 Carmela Homes	Bo. Sabang, Baliuag, Bulacan	120	285,000.00
19	Lot	Resl	Lot 6 Blk 1 Carmela Homes	Bo. Sabang, Baliuag, Bulacan	120	285,000.00
20	Lot	Resl	Lot 7 Blk 1 Carmela Homes	Bo. Sabang, Baliuag, Bulacan	120	285,000.00
21	Lot & Bldg	Resl	#350 Tambobong	Bocaue, Bulacan	1,085	1,726,500.00
22	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 26 & 28 Triple Junction Subd.	Bo. Matungao, Bulacan, Bulacan	658	2,231,500.00
23	Lot	Resl	Lot 9983-F San Pascual	Hagonoy, Bulacan	469	313,000.00
24	Lot	Resl	Lot 9991 San Pascual	Hagonoy, Bulacan	278	185,500.00
25	Lot & Bldg	ResiCommi	Lot 11& 12 Arizona St., Heritage Home	Longos, Malolos, Bulacan	238	4,262,000.00
26	Lot & Bldg	Resl	#63 Inang Wika St.	Bgy. Caniogan, Malolos, Bulacan	1,071	2,178,000.00
27	Lot	Resl	Zamora St., Poblacion	Meycauayan, Bulacan	432	3,382,000.00
28	Lot & Bldg	Aglindl	Lot 3351-B-2 Cupang	Pandi, Bulacan	2,027	2,518,500.00
29	Lot & Bldg	Resl	882 Rodriguez St.	Pandi, Bulacan	600	1,984,000.00
30	Lot & Bldg	Resl	L14 B3 Manlag St., Dominic Subd.	San Roque, Pandi, Bulacan	280	542,000.00
31	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Bagong Bano	Pandi, Bulacan	1,102	1,104,000.00
32	Lot	Resl	Pinagkuartelan	Pandi, Bulacan	774	735,500.00
33	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Provincial Road., Pinagkuartelan	Pandi, Bulacan	500	892,500.00
34	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Provincial Road., Siling Matanda	Pandi, Bulacan	518	730,000.00
35	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Airport Road., Lumangbayan	Plaridel, Bulacan	2,457	5,051,500.00
36	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lanzones St., Sta. Monica Subd.	Nabuag, Plaridel, Bulacan	216	1,327,500.00
37	Lot & Bldg	Resl	#385 Enomag Subd., Brgy. Banga 1st	Plaridel, Bulacan	100	829,500.00
38	Lot	Resl	Sta. Ines	Plaridel, Bulacan	473	745,000.00
39	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lot 941 Sapang Putol, Mun. Road	San Ildefonso, Bulacan	632	1,327,500.00
40	Lot	Rawland	Lot 2302-G-8 Bo. Lambakin	San Miguel, Bulacan	1,000	90,000.00
41	Lot	Rawland	Lot 2302-G-7 Bo. Lambakin	San Miguel, Bulacan	1,000	90,000.00
42	Lot	Rawland	Lot 2302-G-6 Bo. Lambakin	San Miguel, Bulacan	1,000	90,000.00
43	Lot	Resl	# 97 Partida	San Miguel, Bulacan	993	89,500.00
44	Lot	Resl	Lot 2675-A-17 Brgy.Tibagan	San Miguel, Bulacan	360	130,000.00
45	Lot	Resl	Lot 2675-A-16 Brgy.Tibagan	San Miguel, Bulacan	360	130,000.00
46	Lot	Resl	Lot 2675-A-11 Brgy Tibagan	San Miguel, Bulacan	360	130,000.00
47	Lot	Resl	Lot 6-B #89 Pineda St.,Tigpalas	San Miguel, Bulacan	2,709	2,757,500.00
48	Lot & Bldg	ResiIndl	Bo. San Agustin	San Miguel, Bulacan	634	2,183,500.00
49	Lot & Bldg	Resl	San Juan de Dios Vill., Tambubong	San Rafael, Bulacan	720	1,184,000.00
50	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Tabing-bakod	Sta. Maria, Bulacan	1,144	1,702,000.00
51	Lot	Resl	Brgy. Balasing	Sta. Maria, Bulacan	847	368,500.00
52	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Brgy. Guyong	Sta. Maria, Bulacan	311	1,008,500.00
53	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Tuktukan	Guiguinto, Bulacan	664	6,842,000.00
54	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Contreras Subd., Bgy. San Agustin	Hagonoy, Bulacan	213	1,428,500.00
55	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Mabel Cmpd., Ibayo	Marilao, Bulacan	450	4,298,500.00
56	Lot & Bldg	Resl	13 Poseidon St., St. Michael Subd.	Lias, Marilao, Bulacan	186	2,170,000.00
57	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Libis Street	San Rafael, Bulacan	254	1,498,000.00
58	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Daang Maharlika, Bgy. Capihan	San Rafael, Bulacan	87,160	31,809,000.00
			LA UNION			
59	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Uno Road, Brgy. San Vicente	San Fernando, La Union	1,575	4,940,000.00
60	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Martinez St., Lingsat	San Fernando, La Union	751	2,684,000.00
			NUEVA ECIJA			
61	Lot & Bldg	Indl	Calaba	San Isidro, Nueva Ecija	3,339	4,254,500.00
62	Lot & Bldg	Resl	#628 Brgy. Bicos	Rizal, Nueva Ecija	912	652,000.00
63	Lot	ResiAgl	National Road, Bo. Tikiw	San Antonio, Nueva Ecija	1,825	840,000.00
64	Lot	ResiAgl	De Leon St., Poblacion	San Antonio, Nueva Ecija	601	631,000.00
65	Lot	ResiAgl	Brgy. Malapit	San Isidro, Nueva Ecija	2,942	2,559,500.00
66	Lot	Resl	San Roque	Gapan, Nueva Ecija	1,294	459,000.00
67	Lot	AgriResl	Sto. Rosario	Sto. Domingo, Nueva Ecija	2,904	1,390,500.00
68	Lot & Bldg	Resl	C. Esteban St., Sto. Nino 1st	San Jose City, Nueva Ecija	240	410,500.00
69	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Bo. San Pascual	Talavera, Nueva Ecija	433	311,500.00
70	Lot & Bldg	Resl	#362 Vallarta St., Poblacion	San Isidro, Nueva Ecija	658	2,635,000.00
71	Lot & Bldg	Aglindl	Lot C-2, Mallorca	San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija	2,007	544,500.00
72	Lot & Bldg	Aglindl	Lot 1, Mallorca	San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija	2,224	603,000.00
73	Lot & Bldg	Resl	250 B. Lopez St. Bgy. Nayap	San Josef, Jaen, Nueva Ecija	1,093	1,575,000.00
			CABANATUAN			
74	Lot & Bldg	Resl	656 San Juan, ACCFA	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	300	981,500.00
75	Lot & Bldg	Resl	L12 B10 Ph 1 Villa Emilia Subd.	Kalikid Sur, Cabanatuan City	150	304,000.00
76	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Purok 3, Brgy Pula	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	3,491	4,551,000.00
77	Lot & Bldg	Resl	L2 B7 Ph 1 Villa Emilia Subd.	Kalikid Sur, Cabanatuan City	135	282,000.00
78	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Prov. Road, Bgy Bangad	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	14,871	8,204,000.00
79	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Prov. Road, Bgy Bangad	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	2,046	3,377,500.00
80	Lot	Resl	Prov. Road, Bgy Bangad	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	1,200	1,260,000.00
81	Lot	Resl	Prov. Road, Bgy Bangad	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	300	315,000.00
82	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Paco Roman Extn., Padre Crisostomo	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	510	3,776,500.00
83	Lot & Bldg	Resl	347 Parumog St., Bgy Sangitan	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	587	3,776,000.00
84	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Bgy. Valdefuente	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	395	2,031,500.00
85	Lot & Bldg	Resl	14 Calixtus St., Kapitan Pepe Subd	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	375	1,963,000.00
86	Lot & Bldg	Resl	L6, B7 Samson Road, Bgy. Sumacab	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	240	851,000.00
87	Lot & Bldg	Resl	L6, B7 Samson Road, Bgy. Sumacab	Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija	240	763,500.00
			RIZAL			
88	Lot	Resl	Banahaw St., Amityville	San Jose, Rodriguez, Rizal	360	431,000.00
89	Lot	Resl	Lot 19 Blk 9 Brgy. San Rafael	Montalban, Rizal	300	510,000.00
90	Lot	Resl	Lot 21 Blk 9 Brgy. San Rafael	Montalban, Rizal	300	510,000.00
91	Lot	Resl	Lot 29 Blk 9 Brgy. San Rafael	Montalban, Rizal	584	992,800.00
92	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Penafrancia Hills, Mayamot	Antipolo, Rizal	290	1,203,000.00
93	Lot & Bldg	Resl	#4 St. Anthony St., Milagros Subd.	Brgy. Dalig, Antipolo, Rizal	209	906,000.00
94	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Maria Venson St., Gloria Heights	Antipolo, Rizal	230	1,350,500.00
95	Lot	Resl	Town & Country Hills, Bgy. Inarawan	Antipolo, Rizal	318	1,327,500.00
96	Lot	Resl	Arvemar Village, Bgy. San Isidro	Angono, Rizal	1,046	2,416,500.00
97	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Mia Mall, Quezon Ave. Extn	Antipolo, Rizal	2,811	64,776,000.00
			MANILA			
98	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Cardinal Cond. F. Agoncillo Cor. P. Gil	Ermita, Manila	641.33	17,306,000.00
			MAKATI CITY			
99	Lot	Comml	Pasong Tamo	San Antonio Vill., Makati City	869	56,196,000.00
100	Lot & Bldg	Resl	World Center Bldg, Buendia Ave. Ext.	Makati City	801.90	59,726,500.00
			MANDALUYONG CITY			
101	Lot & Bldg	Resl	632 Payapa cor Tiaga St.	Mandaluyong City	361	4,281,500.00
102	Lot & Bldg	Resl	3252-B Francisco Comp., F. Roxas St.	Brgy. Pag-asa, Mandaluyong City	228	3,931,500.00
			MUNTINLUPA CITY			
103	Lot	Resl	Bo. Sucat, Int. East Service Road	Muntinlupa City	1,500	8,550,000.00
104	Lot	Resl	Bo. Sucat, Int. East Service Road	Muntinlupa City	1,500	8,550,000.00
105	Lot	Resl	Bo. Sucat, Int. East Service Road	Muntinlupa City	2,092	11,924,500.00
106	Lot	Resl	Bo. Sucat, Int. East Service Road	Muntinlupa City	1,400	7,980,000.00
107	Lot	Comml	Roman Cruz Ave.,Soldiers Hills Vill	Putatan, Muntinlupa City	3,041	35,123,500.00
108	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Elias ST., Rizal Village, Cupang	Muntinlupa City	3,508	28,849,500.00
109	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Nat'l Road, Bgy. Bayanan	Muntinlupa City	866	15,000,000.00
			PARANAQUE CITY			
110	Lot & Bldg	ResiIndl	St. Peter St. Multinational Vill	Paranaque City	800	20,103,000.00
111	Lot & Bldg	Resl	E. Magalona St., BF Executive	Paranaque City	204	7,449,000.00
112	Lot & Bldg	Resl	La Colonia Townhomes, Multinational	Paranaque City	577	12,243,000.00
			QUEZON CITY			
113	Lot & Bldg	Indl	# 117 19th Ave. cor Zamora St.	Quezon City	469	11,240,500.00
114	Lot	Resl	De Vega Comp, Fairview Park	Quezon City	1,908	7,012,500.00
115	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Mozart St., Greenville Subdivision	Novaliches, Quezon City	9,891	95,300,000.00
116	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Sauyo Road, Bagbag	Quezon City	2,172	27,320,500.00
117	Lot & Bldg	Resl	#16 Malambing St., UP Village	Diliman, Quezon City	600.80	18,134,500.00
118	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Happy Homes Vill, Pluto St.	Bago Bantay, Quezon City	54	2,565,000.00
119	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Villa Ortigas Townhomes, Pinaglabana	Quezon City	68	4,725,000.00
			LAS PINAS			
120	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Lucrecia Kasilag St., BF Resort	Las Pinas	260	3,812,500.00
121	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Moscow cor Yokohama St., Ph 5	BF Homes, Las Pinas	306	7,334,500.00
			PASIG CITY			
122	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Sixto Antonio, Ave., Maybunga	Pasig City	623	28,357,500.00
123	Lot & Bldg	Resl	Chateau Verde Condominium	Pasig City	152.72	5,782,500.00
			VALENZUELA			
124	Lot & Bldg	Resl	3-A Espiritu St.	Bo. Mabolo, Valenzuela, M.M.	366	1,776,500.00
125	Lot	Resl	Veinte Reales	Tugatog, Valenzuela, M.M.	550	878,000.00
126	Lot & Bldg	Resl	# 2329 Angeles Compound	Gen. T. de Leon, Valenzuela, M.M.	179	973,000.00
127	Lot & Bldg	Resl	# 3008 Brgy. Gen. T. de Leon	Valenzuela, M.M.	224	962,500.00
128	Lot & Bldg	Resl	# 411 P. De Guzman St.	Bo. Parada, Valenzuela, M.M.	200	1,649,000.00
129	Lot	Resl	# 293 M.H. del Pilar St.	Malanday, Valenzuela, M.M.	205	816,500.00
130	Lot & Bldg	Indl	St. Dominic St., ITC Compound	Bagbaguin, Valenzuela, M.M.	8,907	50,747,500.00

5% Downpayment
15 Years to Pay
Fixed 18% Interest

JUST BRING P10,000 SHOW MONEY
(cash or MC)

Plantersbank may at any time withdraw any of the properties listed above prior to auction date. All properties for sale on an "as-is-where-is" basis.

For more information, please call Allan, Gody, Grace C. at 759-2264 / 812-1091 up to 97 loc.2431,2911 or visit us @ plantersbank.com.ph

HOUSE & LOT

PARANAQUE

MGV 330m^2 Dream Home w/ Jacuzi Etc 7725027 to view

Multinat'l 87713350/67

Tahanan Vill 5BR 5TB Family Music Study Terrace Atrium 4Car GrgeTile Roof FA 564m^2 LA 769m^2. See to appreciate. Call 8421054/ 0917-532-1678 Direct Buyers only

HOUSE & LOT

PASIG

203m^2 Up/Dn 5BR 3TB 2Car Grge DBO • 0916-3327044

B'ful 5BR+Den Lanai Bar Fam Rm Jap Gden 3½ TB w/ Jacuzzi BTub 3CR Grg Dr Mds Rms 12M Neg. • 642-8310 Greenwoods, Pasig

KAPITOLYO LA375m^2 3BR 3TB w/Prkng • Tel 746-7525

•PHOENIX NR ORTIGAS CBD [illegible]

HOUSE & LOT

PASIG

New Duplex LA204 FA351 3BR 3T&B Attic 2CarGrge 15 Min. to Ortigas Center Jun 641-6375 0917-5394079

VV I W/POOL 16.7M
ASK LEO 727.3159

QUEZON CITY

318m^2 5BR3TB P6M 10th Ave Cubao Tel 912-6330 Dhoyet

HOUSE & LOT

QUEZON CITY

•Loyola Hts P4.5M 4BR 3TB
•Dna Faustina 3.7M 4BR 3TB
Clody 9537266 0917-4340070

New Mla. 1231 sqm w/Pool Nice 2Stry Hse 0917-7541545

NFVIEW NRSM LA300 FA230 3BR 3TB P4.9M 4170330

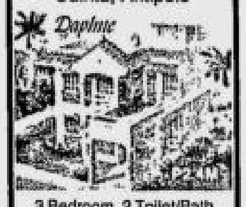
SM NORTH BNEW 9263307

Tierra Bella LA-35[illegible] 178

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

FILINVEST HOMES
Quezon City,
Cainta, Antipolo



3 Bedroom, 2 Toilet/Bath
Carport, Roofdeck
P488T D/P 6 mos.
Bal. 5-15 yrs. at P25T/mo.
CRESTER REALTY
418-2522, 417-1948
937-7580, 0917-531-7882

QUEZON CITY

HOUSE & LOT FOR SALE
WEST TRIANGLE
QUEZON CITY PRIME AREA
LOT AREA : 630 SQ.M.
FLR. AREA : 1,200 SQ.M.
3-STOREYS PLUS ATTIC
FULLY FURNISHED, 8 BEDRMS
12 T&B PLUS MAIDS QUARTERS
& DRIVERS QUARTERS
WITH 6 CAR GARAGE
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

How condominium dwellers cope with the garbage crisis

By Constantino C. Tejero
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

THE GARBAGE crisis two years ago had become a blessing in disguise to some urban dwellers. When the Payatas dumpsite was closed, people were forced to be creative in disposing their garbage. This was what happened to the residents of Alexandra Condominiums in Pasig City.

The place, a compound of 10 buildings

HOW/ p.C6

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The ABC of child rescue

The Philippine Business for Social Progress and Philam Foundation raise funds to give the children of Basilan a chance to grow up in peace, health and dignity

WAR'S most innocent victims work in farms instead of finishing their education.

PRAYING that they'll be given access to education.

By Rowena C. Burgos

CHILDREN are born trailing clouds of glory, poets say. Theirs is a sheltered and blameless time, a sweet space between birth and responsibility. The young are expected to play, to learn, to feel life in every limb. They are not supposed to die or forced to stop schooling and work early. Yet they suffer these things every day in battle zones around the world. They suffer right here in our country.

When Corazon Aquino became president in 1986, many thought that the armed conflict raging in the countryside, which had made casualties of 4.5 million children, would stop.

In the years that followed the fall of the Marcos government, more than a million children died due to the stepped-up campaign of the Aquino administration against the rebels, according to the Task Force Detainees and the Ecumenical Movement for Peace.

The disruption caused by the armed conflict is all pervading. Parents are separated from their children in the confusion. Homes are ravaged and there are little opportunities for any livelihood. Children suffer not only from material poverty but also the lack of intellectual stimuli and learning opportunities.

This is why the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), together with the Philam Foundation and Isabela Foundation Inc., has initiated the Aid for Basilan Children (ABC) Fund Drive. The campaign seeks to raise funds for the educational support (school materials, nutritious meals and transportation fare) of the children in Basilan.

"Like many people all over the world, our hearts went out to the families who lost loved ones in the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the United States," says Jose Cuisia Jr., Philam Foundation chair. "Here in the Philippines, we likewise have our own victims of violence. But it is during these difficult times that we now sound the call to reach out to those who are more severely affected by the violence around us."

The Mindanao Peace and Development Study commissioned by PBSP shows that areas identified with the highest poverty incidence are provinces in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). Poverty incidence in ARMM is 57.3 percent while functional literacy rate is at 61.19 percent versus Mindanao's 75.36 percent. Three out of 10 students finish elementary and only 60 percent of high school students finish secondary school in most of ARMM areas.

Basilan has the lowest functional literacy rate of 48 percent, based on the UNDP Philippine Human Development Report in 1997. Moreover, Basilan ranked second among the 25 most deprived provinces based on human development index and minimum basic needs index.

"Many of the children aren't able to finish their elementary education because they are too weak, too scared or too hungry to go to school. They don't have those precious few pesos needed for transportation fare to go to their schools, which are 1-2 km far from their homes. They have no food to give them nourishment, no books, pencils or uniforms," says Ed Vencio, Philam Life vice president for marketing.

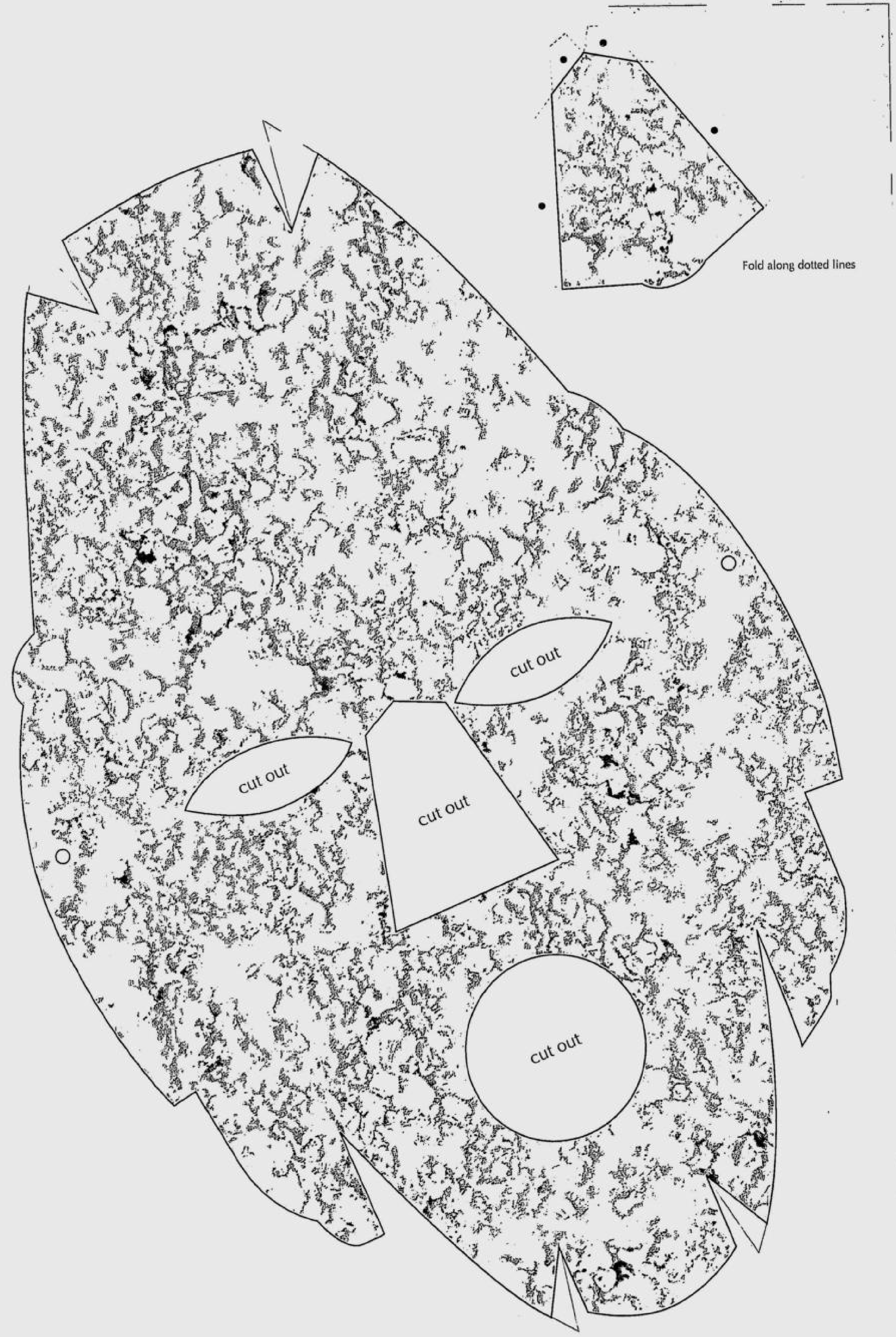
With the armed conflict in Basilan, the Philam Foundation thought it had to do something concrete for the children who are not spared in the deadly games adults play. "We hope to give the children of Basilan access to education in the next few years. Education is the best means to get people out of poverty," Cuisia says.

Addressing poverty

The Mindanao Peace and Development Study led PBSP to formulate a "catch-up plan" that addresses core development issues like education and literacy, health, land tenure,

THE ABC/ p.C7

TOO poor to go to school.



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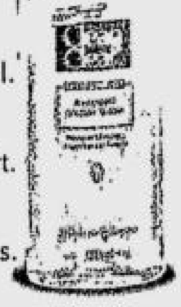

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What started as mere idealistic visions have transformed into realizable undertakings, that's why the groundwork has already commenced for these two first-rate communities where dreams are realized as each home is built and each community is formed.

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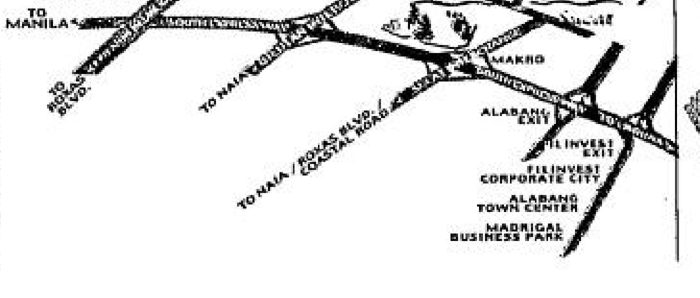
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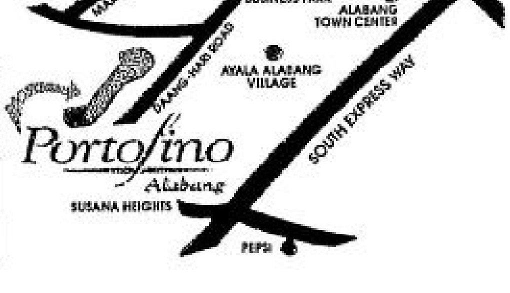
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A TREE being mulched to save on water

HERBS in pocket gardens

SALAD greens on sparse patches of soil

VEGETABLE garden up in the air

How condominium dwellers cope with the garbage crisis

From page C1

with an average of 12 stories each, is located on Meralco Avenue in the busier section of the city. It has about 500 units with some 3,000 residents.

The residents have been segregating their garbage since 1998, but it was only in 2000—when they found themselves in a really rotten situation—that they started to realize the virtues of composting.

Two trucks would come to collect their garbage every day, for which they paid P2,000. But one day they woke up to find that no garbage collector came. The dumpsites had been closed, and no town would welcome Metro Manila's garbage.

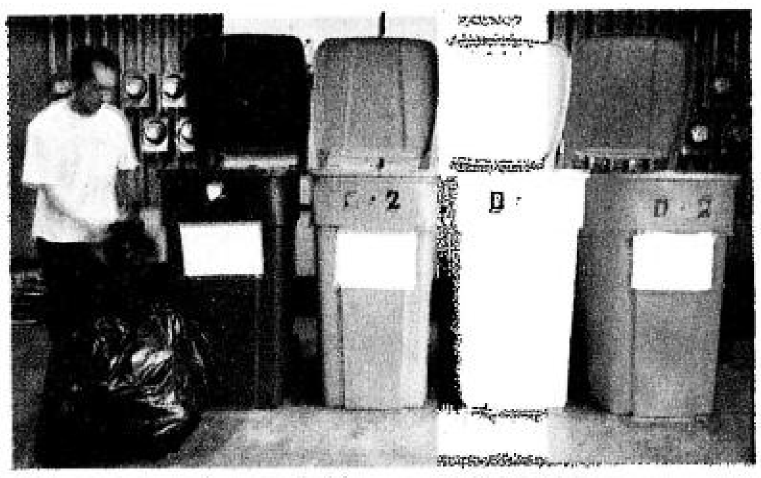
For a month the garbage accumulated on the grounds of the compound. An overpowering stench hung in the air. And that was when Alexandra Condominiums environmental committee chair Grace Favila introduced composting to the residents.

"*Napilitan kaming mag*-compost *nu'ng nagka*-garbage crisis," says Minotte Cuenca, who now heads the committee.

Simple process

The process is simple. All you need are an empty flowerpot, a few handfuls of soil and some sprinkle of water. Kitchen waste such as fruit and vegetable peelings, spoiled or leftover food and coffee dregs are placed in the flowerpot, layered with soil, moistened regularly to hasten the decomposition, then covered with a lid to check the smell and prevent flies and rodents from digging. In a month you'll have rich organic fertilizer.

"The resulting soil has a texture that's smooth *na medyo basa*," enthuses Cuenca. "*Amoy bagong dinilig na* grass. *Bango! Nakakatuwa!*"


WASTE segregation equals big money.

Neatly arranged on the roofdecks of the buildings are flowerpots covered with *bilao*, which are weighed down with stones. There's the odor of decay emanating from them, to be sure, but not too overpowering, anyway. Small birds come and peck at the soil of the uncovered pots, looking for worms.

"*'Yan ang kalaban namin*," says Cuenca of the birds. "Because they mess up the soil."

On some of the balconies, too, can be found a few of these compost pots.

"Those are families with few kids, *na konti lang ang* waste," says Cuenca.

One other thing the residents discovered, during the month their garbage was accumulating, they found some plants, perhaps from calamansi seeds, sprouting out of the decaying matter. They realized they could grow their salad greens right in their buildings. So now they also have pocket gardens wherever there's a patch of soil.

Side by side with the compost on the roofdecks are potted vegetables such as *ampalaya, alugbate,* tomatoes, pepper, spring onion, *pechay,* okra, *camote, gabi,* even a vine of watermelon clinging to the wire mesh and grills of the laundry cages.

On the sparse patches of soil on the ground are a few rectangles and triangles of vegetable plots. There's even a semi-circle of an herbal garden where the residents have grown basil, oregano, rosemary, coriander, chive, aloe vera.

Attitude problem

Not all are convinced, however. Committee memos posted by the elevators, urging residents to compost, are vandalized and written with postscripts such as: "*Kaya tayo nagkakapeste rito!*" Some naturally hate the worms, the ants, the smell that come with the decay of organic matter.

"*Noong una, maraming ayaw*," Cuenca says. "*Halos sigawan nila kami. Ayaw nilang tingnan ang* compost. *Madumi raw, e.* We have more problems with attitude than with composting. *Mas mabuti pa 'yung* help, they're very enthusiastic. *Gustong-gusto nilang magtanim, gustong-gusto nilang magbaon ng basura.* The expat residents are also enthusiastic, because that's what people are doing back in their countries."

The environmental committee gives away bags of Happy Soil and 10-12 flowerpots with *bilao* per condominium unit. Cuenca estimates that 30 percent of the residents are now into composting. As a result, the garbage trucks come only five days a week, saving the residents P16,000 a month.

In the process, they've also learned mulching and are experimenting on one tree. Small dry leaves are placed on the ground around the tree to protect its roots and retain moisture. The leaves are held down with a nylon mesh to keep them from the passing wind.

The residents also have a storage for dry leaves, a pile held down by palm fronds against the perimeter wall. Once a year the leaves are trucked to a manufacturer of smokeless charcoal, or green charcoal.

Income and savings

Every Monday, a collector from the waste-management group Linis-Ganda gets the recyclables of newspaper, bottles, aluminum cans, plastic. From selling the junk, each building earns P12,000 a year, which goes to the committee for the funding of more projects. They're also holding a garage sale of old or used items on April 24.

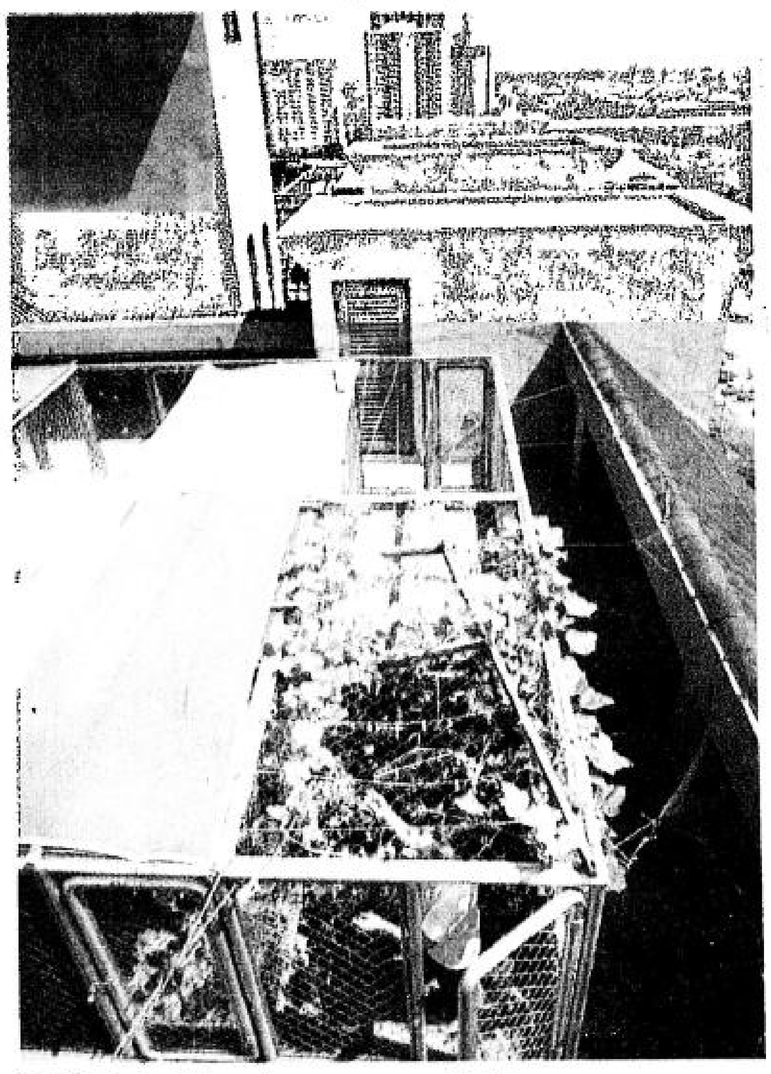
Earnings and savings are used for the Christmas party and the maintenance of staff and the 20 gardeners of the compound. Now the residents have a budget for screening the roofdecks, to keep away pests and birds from their compost.

The environmental committee is composed of Minotte Cuenca as chair, and representatives from each building as members: Martha Orros, Candy Huang, Nena Nakpil, Mona Gallego, Isabel Ong, Irene Zara, Carol Veneracion, Robie Siy.

In Alexandra Condominiums, they are popularly known as the *basureras*. Their projects will be featured in the forthcoming waste-management guidebook "Doon Po sa Amin," by Odette Alcantara and other environmentalists.

(Published by Earth Day Network Philippines and edited by Monina Mercado, with illustrations by Jess Abrera and Antipas Delotavo, the book is a tribute to individuals, groups and companies of different socioeconomic backgrounds and their various ways of managing waste. Part of it, a primer titled "Garbology for Beginners," will be launched on April 22, Earth Day. The whole book will be released in June, World Environment Month.)

"What I delight most in the Alexandra residents is that they're doing it against all odds," says Alcantara. "This is considering that the principal ingredient in composting is soil, there's space limitation, and they're growing plants high in the clouds."


VINES thrive in laundry cages on roofdecks.

WET garbage is turned into fertilizer.

RCBC awards nature tales of 4 kids

THE CHILDREN came from far and near. Princess Morillo traveled from Caloocan City. Dominic Briguera came from Naga City, while Jane Amata was from Zambales. And from Bokod, Benguet came Gieson Madiano.

The children came to receive their prizes for RCBC's "Kwentong Kalikasan, Kwento ng Kabataan" at RCBC Plaza. Ali Bsaies, who came from Mexico City, Mexico, anchored the show. The Pundaquit group of children played a violin rendition of "Pamulinawen" before the dramatization of the winning nature stories began.

LARA Fabregas

"Bago Mahuli Ang Lahat" was the winning entry of 11-year-old Princess Morillo of Baesa Elementary School in Caloocan City. It had a sci-fi flavor to it, using a PlayStation game character as a takeoff point.

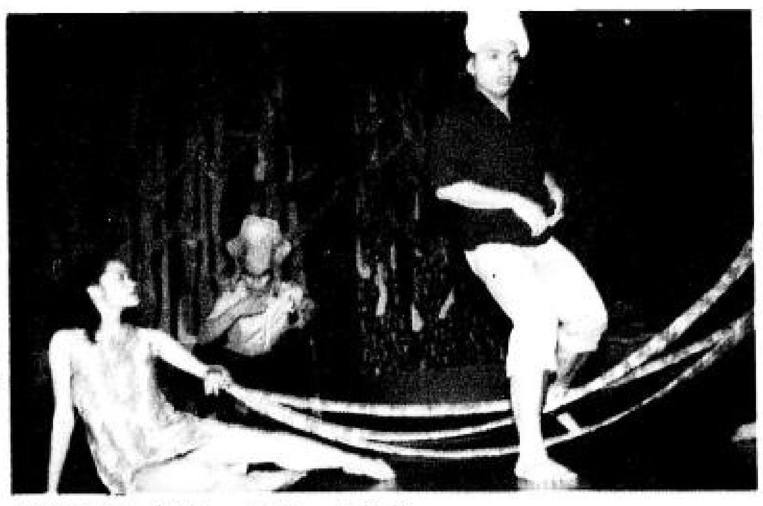
"Ang Tinig" won for Gieson B. Madiano, 11, from Bokod Central Elementary School in Benguet. His story had the most colorful visuals as it told of nature's rebellion against man's abuses.

"Maningning," the river, written by 7-year-old Grade II pupil Jane Maureen Amata from Botolan South Central Elementary School of lahar-locked Botolan, Zambales, displayed dancers made to look like trees. The river came alive through the lead dancer's ingenious costuming that flowed like water onstage.

Dominic Agustin B. Briguera, 12, of Naga Central School II, wrote "My Grandma's Legacy," which was narrated by theater actress Lara Fabregas, and directed by Noel Añonuevo of ABS Foundation.

RCBC executive vice chair Cesar Virata and Teresita Inciong, director of the Bureau of Elementary Education of the Department of Education, handed out plaques and cash awards to the children, their teachers and school principals. The children each received P30,000 and a plaque; the teachers P5,000 each, and the school P25,000 each. Scholarship packages were given by Norman Gonzales, EVP for marketing division of Pacific Plans Inc., and Grepalife for P25,000.

The board of judges was composed of Emily Abrera, chair of McCann Erickson; Neni Sta. Romana-Cruz, writer and head for media communications of International School; and Karina Bolasco, assistant manager of Anvil Publishing.


GIESON B. Madiano's "Ang Tinig"

JANE Maureen Amata (center) with Norman Gonzales of Pacific Plans, RCBC's Cesar Virata, school principal Myrna Lactaotao and Teresita Inciong of DECS

NENI Sta. Romana-Cruz, Emily Abrera and Efren Cruz

DR. Luis Gatmaitan, Dr. Nina Lim-Yuson, Mary Ann Muñoz and Karina Bolasco

PRINCESS Morillo (center) with awards and school officials

DOMINIC Briguera (fourth from left) with mentor Ruel Indicio, Genara Barales, school principal Domingo Barales, mother Rebecca Briguera and RCBC's Domingo Claro

GIESON Madiano (center) with Cesar Virata, assistant school principal Cerila Galasgas, mother Augusta Madiano and mentor Prescilla D. Ebasco

IN A BATTLE zone like Basilan, kids are forced to stop schooling and work early.

EDUCATION is the best means to get people out of poverty.

The ABC of child rescue

From page C2

productivity and income improvement, governance and constituency building.

The ABC Fund drive is PBSP's immediate response to achieve its peace and development agenda in Basilan. It's a one-year scholarship program that seeks to assist 100 Muslim children in Grade 1 currently enrolled at the Lamitan Central Elementary School in Basilan. Qualified for assistance are children of families with income of less than P60,000 a year and those assisted by the outreach program of PBSP's partner, Isabela Foundation Inc. Only one child per family will qualify unless there are excess slots available.

Each child beneficiary will be provided with paper, notebooks, pencils, crayons, three sets of uniforms, PE uniform, school bag and raincoat. Paper and pencils will be replenished every two months. A vehicle will be contracted to bring the children to and from school and will be paid monthly by Isabela Foundation Inc.

Children will be given breakfast and lunch. Parents will be obliged to prepare the menu and assist in the cooking and distribution of meals.

Group health insurance will be provided through the Philam Insurance Companies operating in Basilan.

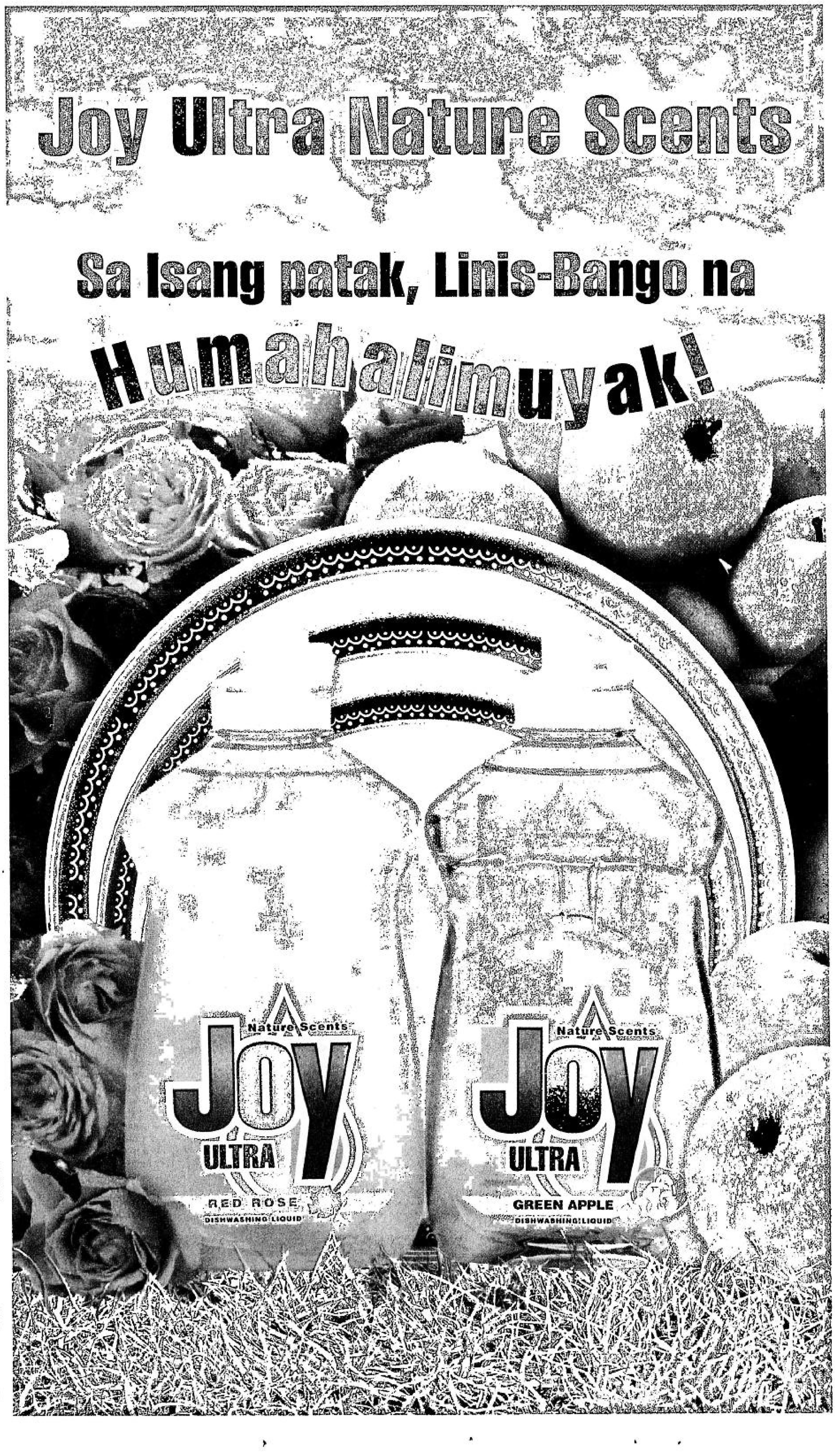
Since a lot of these children are orphans of violence, they and their parents have undergone trauma healing sessions and counseling regularly conducted by the NGO partner of PBSP.

"As long as we can support the ABC Fund, we'll continue to do so. I know that many business enterprises are carrying out their corporate social responsibility, but we need the participation of more firms for there's so much poverty in the country. I wish there'll be more institutions who'll be willing to extend their assistance to the less privileged," says Cuisia.

Interested parties who like to support the ABC Fund Drive may send their donations to the Philam Foundation through the nearest business centers or branch offices of the Philam Group of Companies (Philamlife, Philam Insurance, Philam Care, Philam Plans, Philam Savings Bank, Philam Asset Management, Philam Properties, AIG Credit Card Company Philippines Inc.) or at the ABC Fund Drive booth, G/F Glorietta 2, Ayala Center, Makati City. For more information about the ABC Fund Drive, log on to www.ephilam.com.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

ABC Fund aims to help this kid grow up in dignity.



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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Sweet symphony from San Miguel

By Grace Shangkuan Koo, Ph.D.
Contributor

THE DIFFERENCE between mediocrity and excellence: the San Miguel Master Chorale, musical director Velasco, SMFPA executive and artistic director Cayabyab with the author

THROUGHOUT its history, great music has been sustained by patrons—be they the church, the aristocracy, the royalty or the businessmen. Mozart was in the service of the Archbishop of Salzburg, Handel had pension for life from Queen Anne of England and Wagner had King Ludwig of Bavaria for a sponsor. And though not directly boosting the income of musicians, Andrew Carnegie financed the construction of the Carnegie Hall for the performing arts in New York.

The San Miguel Foundation for the Performing Arts (SMFPA) for its part strives "to nurture excellence and innovation in the performing arts by exploring the vast spectrum of musical expression, to produce and present music of the highest standards and make these accessible to the widest possible audiences."

Incorporated in June 2001, it has since established the 85-member San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra (SMPO) and 56-member San Miguel Master Chorale (SMMC). The members, selected after rigorous screenings, rehearse daily during the workweek: three hours for the orchestra and four for the chorale.

RYAN Cayabyab

The chorale and orchestra held their debut concert in Manila at the Las Piñas Organ Festival in February. The performances of Mozart's "Vesperae Solennes de Confessore" and Ryan Cayabyab's "Misa 2000" were among the best in our recent music history. The rousing and emotional standing ovation only confirmed that it was worth the two-hour travel to the concert venue, and the heat and space problem the select audience was willing to endure just so to experience a momentous pleasure of musical excellence.

Just this month, both SMPO and SMMC regaled the Filipinos with a symphony on two consecutive nights at the Meralco Theater.

The following is an excerpt from an interview with Ryan Cayabyab, executive and artistic director of the Foundation, and Jonathan "Jojo" Velasco, musical director of the chorale, at the San Miguel basement offices and rehearsal hall.

As executive and artistic director of the Foundation, what are some work demands that are new to you?

Ryan (R): A lot. Well, for one, meetings—meetings with Mr. (Eduardo) Cojuangco, with the directors and staff. Also meetings to resolve conflicts, mostly artistic differences which some led to personal issues, although I should say that our singers and instrumentalists came from other groups where they already learned the basic interpersonal skills. What gets me excited in meetings is really being a part of the lively exchanges of musical ideas—highly intellectual and creatively stimulating.

How different is it for you to direct this professional chorale from the nonprofessional choirs?

Jojo (J): Very different. The expectations I have for them, they for me, and among themselves are way up high. This group learns so fast, it was like they were *nangangain ng piesa* (swallowing the music), reading one piece to the next.

In your perception, is the motivation level of the choristers heightened by professionalism?

J: Oh, yes! They arrive for rehearsals before appointed time. They study the music at home and come prepared. They are excited to explore new pieces and are competitive. The primary satisfaction comes from enjoying this rare opportunity to sing great music with such a "perfectionist" group of singers. I believe the salary is secondary. (Laughs)

What kind of sound do you strive for? Any model choirs?

J: I admired the Swedish Radio Choir, the Rias choir, and the sound of the World Youth Choir where I conducted twice. But we have to develop our own sound. This past winter, when I was invited to direct the World Youth Choir the second time, I was already looking for the San Miguel sound. We must have surpassed their sound! I discovered that what the choirs of the western world can do, we Filipinos can also do. What is more amazing is they cannot do what we can!

What were some problems you had encountered or any potential ones?

J: Being good singers a few of the choristers have "soloistic tendencies." Although I still need to hone the sound, I also feel the

SWEET/ p.D4

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Draw Date	Prize	No. of Winners
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23		500
30		500
May 7	P300 worth of call and text credit	500
14		500
21		500
28		500
June 4	P300 worth of call and text credit	500
11		500
18		500
25		500
July 2		500

Monthly Draws

Draw Date	Prize	No. of Winners
May 7	Home Theater* or Digital** Showcase	1
June 4	Home Theater* or Digital** Showcase	1
July 2	Home Theater* or Digital** Showcase	1

Grand Draw

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
July 2	SUV of your choice***	1

* Home Theater Showcase: Philips 127 cm (50") Projection TV and Pioneer HTZ 77 Home Theater (DVD,VCD, and CD-capable) with MP3 Player and 5.1 speaker system
** Digital Showcase: DCR-TRV38 Sony Video Camera, Compaq iPAQ, Canon A10 Digital Still Camera, and a Sony Playstation 2
*** Choice of any SUV: Toyota RAV4, Mitsubishi Pajero, or Isuzu Trooper

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Flight delay and bad airport service spoil travel holiday

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

PLANE tickets don't come cheap and it's no joke getting ready for the flight. So why won't passengers expect good customer service all the way? Why not, asked Felicitas E. Deleña and 96 other disgusted passengers of delayed Philippine Airlines flight PR105 from San Francisco to Manila on April 5. It was scheduled to leave at 9:40 p.m., but took off at 12:35 a.m.

Out of exasperation and for want of something to do while waiting for their flight, the passengers wrote a complaint letter to call the attention of PAL chair Lucio Tan.

"We were hungry. We were tired. We were exasperated and didn't know what to expect because, for most of the three hours we waited at San Francisco airport, the PAL customer service staff was of no help." Deceña told us she was already at the airport after lunch, but other passengers arrived even earlier.

"The least PAL customer service should have done out of sheer goodwill was to offer us snacks, if dinner was not possible. The restaurants had already closed and the vending machines did not offer much to hungry passengers, particularly to diabetics among us." Deceña was already in a bad mood when, earlier, she was made to wait long for a wheelchair.

"How can the airline promote its direct flight between San Francisco and Manila with delays and lack of good customer service?" Deceña asked. She had good praises, nonetheless, for PAL customer service at the Centennial Airport. "They could teach the San Francisco customer staff about good service," she said.

City tour ripoff

CALLING the Hong Kong Tourist Association (HKTA) to do something about rampant deceptive practices of tour arrangers and guides who have victimized tourists over the years. These practices range from making tourists pay for souvenir items they didn't order to overpricing of goods and services, and altering itineraries to suit the guides' vested interests.

As a result, many tourists don't get to see famous shopping areas and landmarks of Hong Kong. Instead, they are brought to stores that are not in the itinerary, evidently because the guides earn commission from sales.

The Tongco family had this typical experience: "We were whisked to several factory outlets in Hong Kong in the morning. After that we had a hurried lunch at 3:15 p.m. in Shenzhen, then had a whirlwind tour of the Chinese museum (not in the itinerary), then rushed to a room for tea drinking and selling session. After a tour of the Windows of the World, we looked forward to the famous bargain hunts at the malls. We ended up at a pearl factory where pearls and imitation fashion products were on sale."

Even entertainers and media practitioners are not spared in this con game. Last year, Ali Sotto was raving mad when she and her friends had a similar experience in Hong Kong. They were brought to shops that were not in the itinerary. Cunning guides and vendors baited them with 50-percent discounts on products and one-day sales. They discovered later that they incurred a lot of extra charges on their credit cards.

Journalist Linda Bolido and her friends have this story to share. They joined a packaged tour early this year. In addition to unscheduled shop tours, they were brought to a traditional medicine hospital where consultation was free of charge. They later discovered that the prescription products they bought were overpriced.

It was not pleasant to shop at the stores, they also complained. Pushy sales clerks stuck to their sides and bugged them with nonstop sales talk. At the end of the day, they thought the dinner and cultural show would be a redeeming factor. They were wrong. They missed dinner. They did not get the good seats they were promised. Even worse, they had paid 90 percent more to their guide for the show ticket.

More recently, Raffy Tulfo complained that the city tour he joined in Hong Kong turned out to be an utter waste of time, money and effort. "The guides didn't show us the historical sights. Our whole day was spent in shops that specialized in jewelry and food products."

He griped about overpricing and deceptive selling practices. "If the vendor agrees readily to the price you haggled, check if you got the same merchandise of your choice and not an inferior product."

Airport hassles

BAD eggs at the airport spoil the good tourism image that airport officials are working so hard to project. Here are complaints from a *balikbayan* who requested anonymity, and Bolido, a frequent traveler:

Balikbayan: "I was happy to find out that passengers are no longer required to pay a fee for using the luggage trolley at the Manila airport... I felt even prouder being a Filipino when a smiling porter helped me with my luggage. My bubble burst, however, and I felt ashamed and disgusted, when that porter whispered, 'Sir, *kung may i-aabot kayo, isingit niyo na po sa* passport, *bahala na ako magabot sa* customs *para tuluy-tuloy na tayo*."

Bolido: What's a "green lane" for if it doesn't serve its purpose? If there are long queues even at the green lane, blame it on customs examiners who inspect passengers' luggage even when they present nothing-to-declare information sheet.

Taxi stand at Ayala Commercial Center

THERE should be more taxi stands like those at ShoeMart and Landmark where taxis and passengers line up in orderly fashion. A uniformed guard hands out information slips to boarding passengers. It contains the following information: taxi name, plate number, make and color of vehicle. The following telephone numbers of traffic enforcers and complaints desks are also printed: DOTC action center—7890; traffic police—899-9007; Mapsa—819-3270 to -71; Block 6 Police—815-2647/818-1732.

E-mail the author at mgiron@csi.com.ph

Fabrics and furnishing house formally opened

TOP industry leaders in the fields of real estate, furniture making, interior design, hotels and commercial operations formally opened the Ortigas branch of Shell Canvas, the country fabrics and furnishing house for both domestic and contract use, yesterday at The Podium Mall in Ortigas Center.

Heading the principal sponsors were Jose Leo Caparas, president of Chamber of Furniture Industries of the Philippines; Prosperidad Luis, president, United Architects Association; Imelda Joaquin, president, Purchasing Managers Association of the Philippines; and Gerry Contreras of the Philippine Institute of Interior Designers.

A furniture, furnishings and accessories exhibit titled "Chic Chateau by Shell Canvas Ortigas" is ongoing until today at the 3/L The Podium Mall. Styled by Indico Corp., the exhibit features classic and contemporary designs that mainly utilize the fabrics of Shell Canvas.

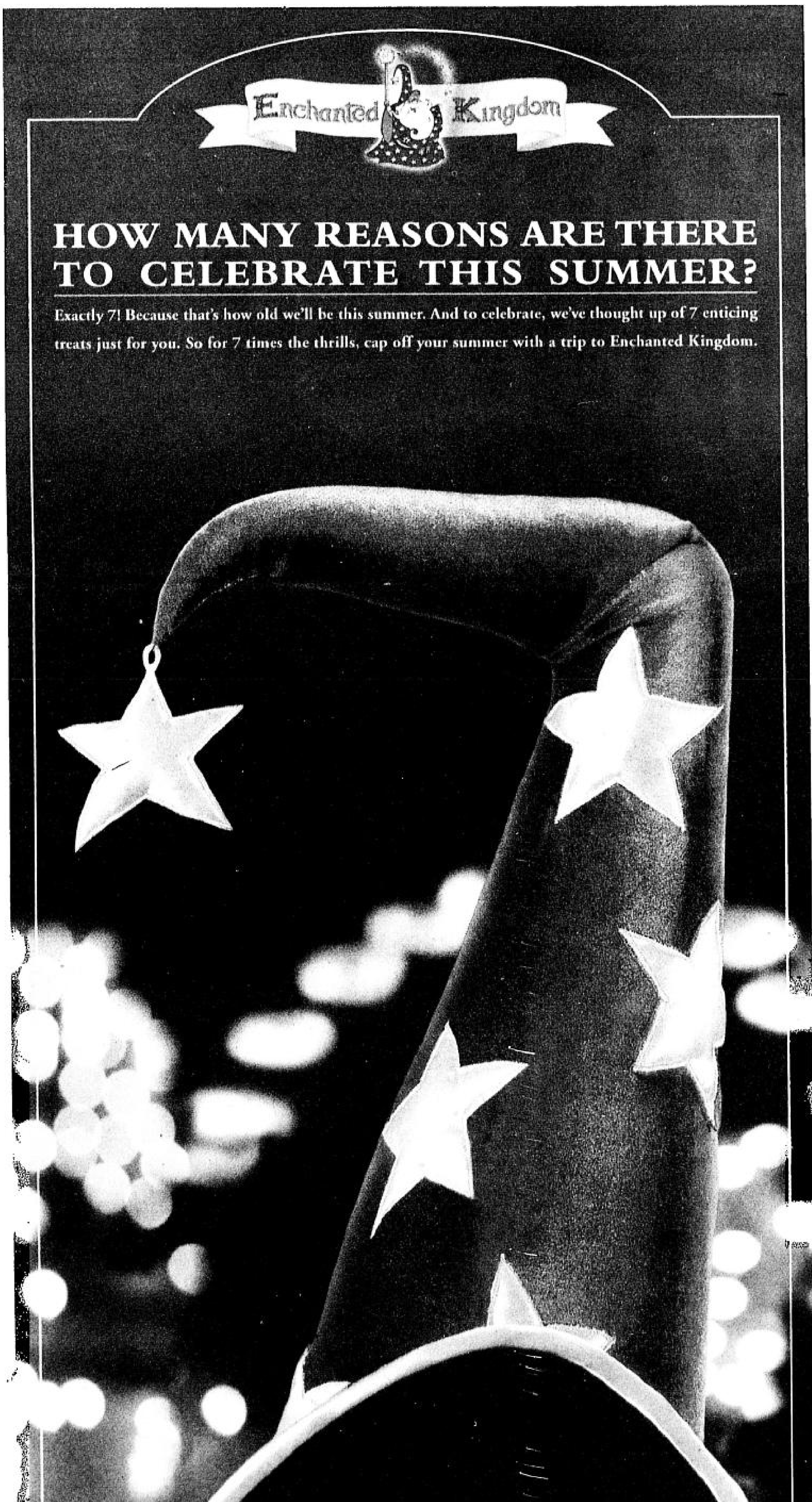
Fine furniture works from the country's top manufacturers and designers Cancio Associates, Union Square Enterprises and Padua International, accent pieces from A Touch of Elegance, lamps and lighting fixtures from Steltz, fashion bags from Heureux, and blinds from Hunter Douglas are on view. Kristine Neri and Jennifer de Dios, interior designer-partners of Indigo Corp., provide additional pieces.

Shell Canvas Ortigas specializes in contract projects (package wholesaling) for hotels, restaurants, hospitals, residential projects and condominiums. It has a complete line of on-stock and indent products, and sources out interior fabric products that cater to the specific requirements of its clients.

"We're the only branch that exclusively carries US and European fabric materials. In the tradition of Shell Canvas, we will continue to provide the utmost in customer service as we have been known since we started in this business 35 years ago," says Bernadette Chua, CEO and managing director.

Shell Canvas, which serves leading realty and property firms, top contract and residential interior designers and architects, offers new designs from the US, Europe and Asia. At present, Shell Canvas carries more than 40,000 fabric designs, 42 books of wallpaper designs, and a wide variety of blinds from the world's top manufacturers, including Hunter Douglas.

Shell Canvas Ortigas is located on the 3/L The Podium Mall, 18 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City (tel. 687-4085 to -88).



HOW MANY REASONS ARE THERE TO CELEBRATE THIS SUMMER?

Exactly 7! Because that's how old we'll be this summer. And to celebrate, we've thought up of 7 enticing treats just for you. So for 7 times the thrills, cap off your summer with a trip to Enchanted Kingdom.

1
7th Fireworks Competition
This promises to be our most dazzling fireworks display yet. It features 7 top competitors lighting up the night sky for top honors.
May 4 7:00PM Spaceport
Brought to you by SMART

2
Jeff Simon's World of Magic
See some of the most spectacular and spell-binding feats performed by world-renowned magician, Jeff Simon. His show is one you'll have to see to believe.
April 28 3PM / 6PM Launch Pad
May 4 3PM / 6PM Launch Pad
May 5 3PM / 6PM Launch Pad
*Admission fee: ₱75.00
Brought to you by SMART

3
Mardi Gras Parade
The celebrations spill over into the streets with our first ever Mardi Gras Festival.
April 27 & 28 3:30/8:00PM Portabello
May 4 & 5 3:30/8:00PM Portabello

4
Dragon and Lion Dances
You're in luck! We're also featuring live and authentic Dragon and Lion Dances in the Park.
May 4 & 5 2PM / 3:30PM / 6PM Parkwide

5
Macau City of Culture
Experience traditional Chinese arts as artisans from Macau demonstrate their various crafts. A sweet maker, a caricature artist, a figure craftsman, a profile cutter and musicians will introduce to you their centuries old culture.
May 4 5:00PM Discovery Workshop
May 5 2-7PM Discovery Workshop
Brought to you by Macau Government Tourist Office

6
Lucky Visitor of the Day
Visit the Park on our 7th Anniversary Celebration and get a chance to be our "Lucky Visitor of the Day." As such, you get Fast Passes for all rides, ₱700 in Wizard Money, a souvenir photo with the Wizard and Princess Victoria, plus ticket upgrades for you and your companions.

7
New Ride Opening
Starting May 1, one of our most thrilling rides returns to send you and the rest of the family on a trip into orbit. This time around, it's no longer "The Enterprise." What it's called, we'll let you decide.

That's not all!
Be part of our Flores De Mayo celebrations on May 4 & 5. Catch the DWTM Concert at the Park Bandstand on May 5. And experience all the rest of the thrills that'll be coming your way as we turn 7. See you there!

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* The Park is open on April 29, 10am to 10pm and on May 1, 2pm to 10pm. The Park will be closed on May 18 & 25 for an exclusive booking. For inquiries on the complete Park schedule, please call 830-2111 to 17 or 843 6073 to 78.

Meteor shower can be seen from hotel-observatory

SEVEN Suites Hotel-Observatory in Antipolo will be the perfect getaway for night watchers on April 20 and 21, when the meteor shower Lyrids, from the constellation Lyra, will be visible in the sky. The whitish to yellowish showers of shooting stars will be spotted in the northeast from 12 mn until sunrise on those two days.

Seven Suites Hotel-Observatory is equipped with a powerful telescope on its roof deck where guests can enjoy stargazing all night long. The hotel is perched on the hills of Antipolo, providing a splendid day and night view of the city.

Prof. Edmund Rosales of the University of the Philippines Observatory will conduct a free lecture on meteor shower on April 20. The Lyrids meteor shower is one of the best expected this year, he said, and about a dozen is visible in 2002. The seven best meteor showers are in January, April, May, August, October, November and December this year.

To spot the Lyrids, one should look for the bluish white bright star called Vega in the northeast. From there, streaks of shooting stars will pour down during the peak hours of 2-4 a.m. on April 20 and 21. On a clear and dark night sky, up to 20 shooting stars per hour can be expected during these peak hours. A spectacular night show is anticipated as the planets Mercury, Saturn, Mars, Venus and Jupiter will also be aligned.

In mid-April until May, the comet Ikeya, also called Zhang, will be visible in the night sky. The comet can be spotted from the northeast for more than two weeks.

Seven Suites Hotel-Observatory will offer guest stargazers and party ravers overnight accommodation promos and special menu and beverage offerings the whole month.

On April 20, Seven Suites will present its Giant Paella in time for the "RX Cookout" of Monster Radio RX93.1. Guests with stubs will be able to savor the *paella* from 7 p.m. onward and enjoy performances by Parokya ni Edgar, Cheese, Itchyworms, Imago, Lillian and Moonstar 88. Games, contests and street partying will be held until dawn.

Sumptuous Italian food is available at Bistro Amore. Guests can unwind at the elevated swimming pool, roof deck jacuzzis and garden pavilion. Seven Suites Hotel-Observatory is located on Sumulong Highway, Antipolo in front of Valley Golf Club. Call 240-5093, 677-5401 or (0919) 436-5057.

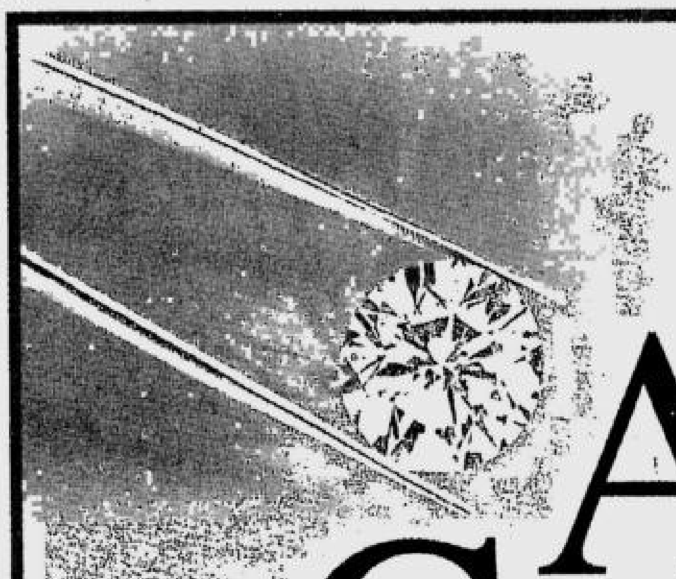
Panaad showcases the best of Negros Occidental

THE PROVINCE of Negros Occidental celebrates Panaad until April 21. Now on its 9th year, the Panaad will be held at Panaad Park and Stadium in Bacolod City.

The Panaad features theme booths from Negros Occidental's 13 cities and 19 municipalities, which offer a multitude of sights, sounds and tastes that characterize the different parts of the province. Borrowing from the Nayong Pilipino and Disneyland concepts, the festival also gives visitors a glimpse of some of the area's more famous fiestas like Bacolod's Masskara, La Carlota's Pasalamat, San Carlos' Pintaflores, Bago's Babaylan, Mambukal's Mudpack and La Castellana's Bailes de Luces.

Panaad is a Hiligaynon term that means a promise or vow and the potential to fulfill it. The festival highlights recent successes: from the manufacture of world-class furniture, household items, handicrafts and children's garments to the production of cutflowers and ornamentals, prawns and high-value fruits and vegetables, and even the breeding of highly competitive game fowl. It will also feature the province's history, arts, culture, sports and tourist attractions, alongside the numerous opportunities available in trade, commerce and industry. Known traditionally as a sugar producer, Negros Occidental has in recent years diversified its economy.

Call the office of Gov. Joseph Marañon through the Panaad Publicity Committee at (034) 433-9334, 434-9039 or 709-8771, or the Tourism Promotion and Development Division at (034) 433-2515/2517.



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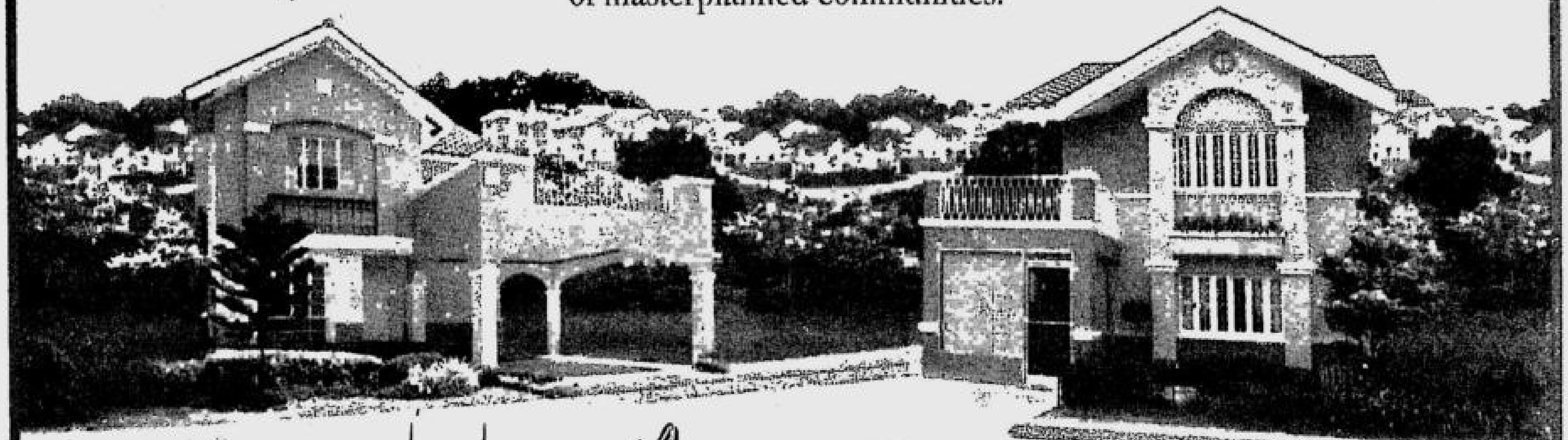

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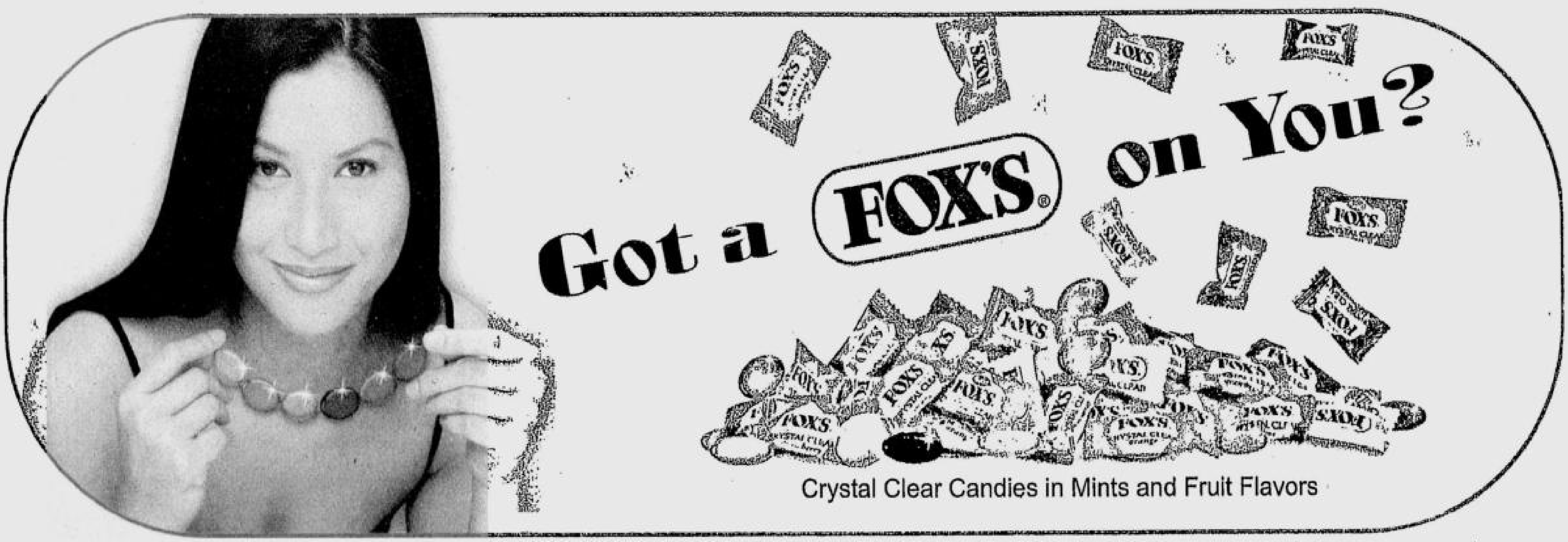


JOSIE Lichauco, Jaime Zobel, Bea Zobel and Mary Prieto

SEATED, from left, Fortune Aleta-Ledesma (tribute chair), Chito Madrigal Collantes, Meldy Cojuangco, Thelma Gana, Bishop Crisostomo Yalung; standing, Nellie Bengson, Celing Batungbacal, Olga Martel, Cez Manalo, Nori Ongsiako, Tessie Luz and Letty Syquia

Toast to a regal patroness of the arts

FOR MANY years, the Friends of the Cul-tural Center of the Philippines (FCCP) has taken its cue from its guiding star—philanthropist and patron of the arts, Imelda Ongsiako Cojuangco, who has won many hearts through her gracious and generous ways. It was only proper then that she was feted in a tribute organized by the FCCP at the Tower Club.

The tribute started with a prayer by Bishop Crisostomo Yalung and a welcome address by FCCP's hardworking president Thelma Gana. Outpourings of love, admiration and thanks were evident. The evening's highlight was the *palabas*, which detailed every aspect of Meldy's life. Marvie and Ningning Yulo, Meldy's daughters, and their friends cut the rug with a sizzling chacha. Not to be outdone, Meldy's grandchildren took to the floor with their own modern dance number. Meldy's friends—Nori Ongsiako, Tereret Liboro, Chloe Periquet, Thelma Gana, Cez Manalo, Menchu Concepcion, Nene Quimson, Jimmy Laya, Opap Villonco, Marie Lacson, Mars Lambino and CCP president Nes Jardin—got into the act with a beautifully choreographed Alcamfor.

Tributes also came from the musical arts, a sector long supported and encouraged by Meldy. The Manila Symphony Orchestra II launched into several musical numbers. Opera singers Lorna Llames and Jonathan Badon rendered several arias. Pianist Nena del Rosario Villanueva treated Meldy and her guests to several flawlessly executed piano pieces. Dr. Manny Almelor serenaded Meldy with heartfelt *kundimans* and the FCCP chorale sang "Hello, Meldy!," a reworked version of "Hello, Dolly!" Members of the chorale were Lulu Castañeda, Stella Cristobal Arenas, Nori Ongsiako, Anna Tirol, Nena Casimiro, Alice Briones, Sol Tan-Gatue and Memen Dy Liaco.

To cap off the evening, Meldy was presented a plaque of appreciation by CCP chair Baltazar Endriga. Johnny Litton, the emcee, offered a toast to Meldy who, in turn, gave an equally heartfelt response. The tribute was brought to poignant end with the closing remarks by Fortune Aleta-Ledesma, chair of the affair.

Not surprisingly, the affair was extremely well attended. Counted among the guests were members of the FCCP and Meldy's family and friends: Sonya Mathay, Ofie Recto, Corina Caparas, Alan and Marivic Tengco, Marietta Santos, Rosita Lesaca, Jaime and Bea Zobel, Nenuca Blardony, Andy Liboro, Al Casimiro, Susan Macuja, Jamby Madrigal, Malou Unson, Sol Lavadia, Nora Malabanan, Gilda and Ronnie Salonga, Jose Briones, Techie and Adrian Cristobal, Pitang Lopez-Tiongson, Lucille Villanueva, Tessie Amparo, Louie Ablaza, Sonny Ong, Marilou Alejandro, Criselda Lontok, Edith Rabat, Fely Abaya, Carol Garcia, Yaying Dragon, Monchito Locsin Tambunting, Toni Parsons, Danny Dolor, Violete Reyes, Marivic Concepcion, Toti Fernandez, Ising Vasquez, Ambassador Isabel Wilson, Baby Araneta-Fores, Nelly Gonzales, Ditas Jalbuena, Madeleine Lim, Boling Maxine Cacho, Baby Reyes, Vic Reyes, Judy Roxas, Mercy Tuason, Letty Syquia, Olga Martel, Nellie Bengzon, Celing Batungbakal, Don Pedro Cojuangco, Miriam Montelibano, Dely and Baby Ongsiako, Carmencita Reyes, Ting Ongsiako, Lulu Revilla, Monching and Mellie del Rosario, Corito Kalaw, Pitoy Moreno, Lorna Laurel, Lourdes Montinola, Paz Yuchengco, Nene and Teling Yulo, Marisa Cojuangco, Mikey and Lizette Cojuangco, Patricia Cojuangco, Paqui and Susie Ortigas, Mariel Yulo, Monique Villonco, Roy Gonzales, Paeng and Mely Hechanova, Clarita Paras, Munding Feliciano, Pilie Aquino, Malu Veloso, Nelson Santos, Pacita de Guzman, Chel Mercado, Belen Hidalgo, Frank Adriano, Fanny Blanco, Celine Bautista, Karen Macasaet, and Chito Madrigal Collantes, founding chair of FCCP, and former foreign deputy minister Manuel Collantes.

Imelda Ongsiako Cojuangco gets her comeuppance from a grateful arts and culture community

MELDY Cojuangco with Lulu Cojuangco Rivilla and Luis Tirso Rivilla

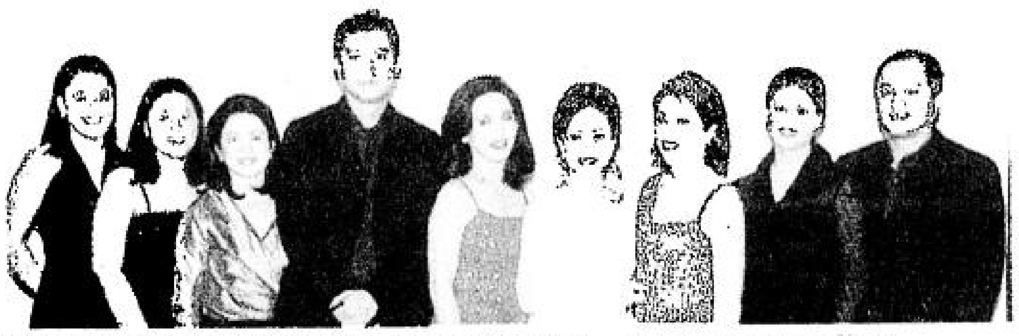
TILING Yulo, Cez Manalo, Nessa Yulo, Meldy Cojuangco, Johnny Litton, Chit Gohu and Nena Casimiro

MELDY'S grandchildren

PACQUI Ortigas

MELLIE Ablaza and Helen Ong

MENCHU Concepcion and Marivic Concepcion



MELDY with Patricia Cojuangco, Mariel Cojuangco, Marissa Cojuangco, Choy Cojuangco, Ningning Cojuangco Yulo, Marvie Cojuangco Yulo, Lizette Cojuangco and Mikey Cojuangco

TERERET Liboro

NENE Leonor

Sweet symphony from San Miguel

From page D1

voices contribute to great sounds. If you notice in the concert, we had different sounds for the Mozart's piece and Ryan's "Misa." For Mozart's music, we produced what I call "corset" sound—like how the women wear corset—controlled, delicate, not *balahura*. For Ryan's "Misa," we took away the "corset" and sang away [so] more resonant, fuller. One of our most valuable musical traits is our flexibility—we can do anything! A colleague commented that we are "chameleon-like; we have the ability to change vocal weight and color according to the demands of the pieces."

I was in a symposium where I heard John Rutter saying he would not want to write another requiem because he is not ready to die the second time. (Ryan chuckles.) Ryan, you wrote "Misa 1" in 1983 and "Misa 2000" in 1999. How were you able to do so and how do they differ?

R: Yes, I was able to do the two masses within that span of time, and just last year alone, I wrote three masses for the congregation! "Misa 2000" echoes "Misa 1." The first *misa* is à cappella, the second, for orchestra and voices.

How do you explain a mass as dance music?

R: I can't explain. People say many of my compositions can be danced to, the "Anima Cristi" was an example. It was Douglas Nierras who requested for my music for the competition (for dance and choreography), which required an original composition. Our meeting took place in 10 minutes and we understood each other.

To what do you attribute your winning the Onassis International Competition for Original Composition?

R: I can only tell you about the other winning entries. Their compositions reminded me of the works of Dr. Francisco Feliciano, Chino Toledo and Dr. Ramon Santos. If they joined the competition they would win! You know, not the avant-garde music where you hear scratching sounds, glasses breaking and sound versus no sound, but New Music *na parang may tono na walang* tonality or *may munti-muntikang* melody *na hindi natuloy* (snatches, on the verge, of melodies).

How do you manage to be so productive and successful in so many areas of music: composition, recording, conducting, education, performing?

R: I don't mind what others say, I just trudge on. People might say my classical pieces are too pop, or my pop music is too classical. My teachers say, go and find your style. I do not imitate but the styles of great composers insinuated my music. I tell my students: Create your own small spheres in this vast sphere of music.

How easily do you shift among the genres of music?

R: Very easily. I do it because it is fun. I just don't do metallic! I am very flexible, experimental. I read the book of Olivier Messiaen, "Technique de mon Langage Musical," where I learned the importance of creating my own language of music. The pioneering spirit of Jose Maceda also inspires me.

What is your view of patronage in music? Is this because we do not have a listening public large enough to support classical music?

R: Yes, that is one reason. Another reason is because we are a young culture. Imagine what the western culture already was in the 17th century, even during the Renaissance period! The sophistication of the musical structure and instruments! High music is not steeped in our culture and thus needs patrons to be developed and brought to the public. The barometers are economics and competition with television, and other less expensive forms of leisure activities. It is about buying Filipino; if people buy Filipino music, we can build thriving cultural communities. It is about instilling pride and discipline. When people are exposed to and touched by good music, they will be able to tell the difference between mediocrity and excellence. I should also emphasize that this foundation does not depend solely on the largess of the company. We also raise funds by performing for others in musical events.

What would be your dream project for the chorale?

J: To bring the group to do concerts abroad. As a professional group, we cannot join competitions. We can do something like what Toyota is doing—outreach and goodwill trips. But do you know that Toyota does not send its own orchestra? The last concert Toyota presented in Manila was the London Festival Orchestra. But look, San Miguel does not need to import; we have our own orchestra and chorale. Is that not something?

Definitely! And you, Ryan, what are your immediate plans for the foundation?

R: We will open our season's concerts at CCP in September, which will be preceded by a type of teaser-program in August. We will also organize competitions for orchestral and choral writing. I have so many projects in mind. Our goals have always been to increase awareness and provide experiences of musical excellence, to exclaim, "Wow! *Ang galing ng Pilipino!*"

On a personal note, are you near the peak of your career?

R: No! Maybe when I reach 60.

Certainly a very comforting thought: The best is yet to come!

According to psychologist Eirk Erikson, there are eight stages with corresponding crisis in our psychosocial development. The seventh stage covering the longest period (ages 25-65) is generativity versus stagnation. Kotre believes there are different ways adults develop generativity: biological, parental, work and cultural.

Mr. and Ms Danding Cojuangco, the patrons of the San Miguel Foundation, must have already found great satisfaction in the first three types of generativity, and are now giving full force to the fourth. Cultural generativity is to "create, renovate and conserve aspects of the culture that survive." In so doing they have also provided Cayabyab and Velasco the much appreciated opportunities and resources to actualize their aesthetic dreams and to greater heights.

JONATHAN Velasco

THE SAN Miguel Master Chorale rehearses daily for four hours.

More Filipinos developing 'nose' for wine

By Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Romy Homillada

TITA Trillo of Anthony's Wines (standing, second from left) with guests Howard Vitas, Johnny Litton, lawyer Amanda Carpo, PDI president and Hands On VP Alexandra "Sandy" Prieto-Romualdez, PDI chair Marixi Prieto and Cary Rufino

KATRINA Goulborn

MICHAELA Fenix, Tita Trillo and Glenda Barretto

You become addicted to the pleasure it gives to your sense of smell

IT'S no longer simply a question of whether the wine is red or white, dry or sweet. A growing number of Filipinos are now becoming more informed and discriminating when it comes to Bacchus' favorite drink.

Buoyed by this knowledge, leading Chilean winemaker Concha y Toro launched recently several products—from the affordable Sunrise to the high-end Casillero del Diablo and Don Melchor—as it set out to capture the No. 1 spot in the local wine market in less than two years. The company has confidence in its merchandize and the prevailing business climate.

"I don't want to raise the eyebrows of our competitors," says Concha y Toro's regional manager Andres Ballesteros, "but we want to be the leading brand in the Philippines in the next 18 months. We have everything going for us—the quality, the prices and Anthony's Wines as our exclusive distributor."

It's no empty boast, mind you. Concha y Toro, Ballesteros says, is the leading brand in 80 percent of the countries where it does business. Started in the late 1800s by Don Melchor de Concha y Toro, who established the winery bearing his name in Chile's famed and idyllic Central Valley, Concha y Toro's wines are now exported to over 90 countries the world over. The vineyard produces close to 100 million liters of wine yearly to meet both domestic and international demand.

Chilean wines are put in the same league as those produced in California and Australia. Ballesteros considers Australia, not France, as Chile's main competitor. "Our products are called New World wines to differentiate us perhaps from wines produced in Europe."

Drink for a cause

Anthony's Wines hosted recently a series of wine-tasting events to launch Concha Y Toro's wines. The series culminated with a formal dinner at the Shangri-La Hotel's Cheval Blanc. Twenty percent of the dinner's proceeds went to Hands On Manila Foundation, a nonprofit organization that recruits, educates and coordinates a network of volunteers for diverse community projects in Metro Manila.

The foundation's unique program gives volunteers more flexibility in terms of scheduling and the choice of projects they want to be involved in. It has established partnerships with 26 organizations. PDI president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez is Hands On's current vice president.

Concha y Toro began its aggressive campaign to establish a regional presence only late last year. The single Ballesteros will move some time this month from Santiago, Chile to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where he will direct the company's regional operations. His responsibility includes the rest of East Asia, except Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia.

"Filipino consumers have gone beyond red or white," says the personable regional manager. "Some are beginning to ask whether the wine is a Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay or Sauvignon Blanc. Many, of course, now swear [illegible] the drink's health-giving benefits."

The Philippines, for sure, has yet to reach Japan or Hong Kong's level of sophistication. Many Filipinos still prefer their wine sweet or fruity, rather than dry or wafting with hints of various aromas. That's fine by Ballesteros, who has it all covered with a full range of products.

"Once a wine drinker reaches a certain level of maturity," he says, "sweetness ceases to be the only consideration. Hints of chocolate, menthol, eucalyptus, berries and even leather are found in a good red wine. Once you become a sophisticated wine drinker, you become addicted to wine not for its alcohol content but for the pleasure it gives to your sense of smell."

This can only be achieved, he adds, through exposure and constant practice. It pays to be exposed to the flavors and scents of wines from the world over, be they French, Spanish, Italian, Australian, Californian and, yes, Chilean.

ANDRES Ballesteros, Concha y Toro's regional manager for East Asia

MARTI Hastillano, Maricar Avellana and Armin Rappika

MIKE Prado, Mabelle del Rosario and Boyd Doriquito

Coke mentality

"Our preference for sweet is attributed to our fondness for Coca-Cola," says Filipino wine connoisseur Tita Trillo of Anthony's Wines. "We're still a novice country when it comes to wines. Hopefully, we will gravitate to better wines as we grow older and more exposed."

Ballesteros, for instance, describes Sunrise as an "easy drink." Brewed in 100 percent stainless steel tanks, the light and fruity wine is considered an everyday drink. Even its price (a little over P300 per bottle) is easy on the budget of the adventurous yet uninitiated drinker.

Amelia, named after Don Melchor's niece, is Concha y Toro's top Chardonnay. Then there's the high-end Casillero del Diablo in such varieties as Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Shiraz, Malbec and Pinot Noir. Aged in oak barrels, the varieties were sourced from several valleys and a testament to Concha y Toro's know-how.

Trillo, who visited Chile recently, gushes over the Central Valley's pristine beauty and its unique topography—a place isolated by the Andes Mountains to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west.

"I was awed when I first saw the place," she says. "Can you imagine the snow melting from the mountains and mixing with the soil? You can see and feel how pristine the surroundings are. The place, which has a climate similar to California's, is perfect for producing wines."

Ballesteros is also enthused about his new posting in Asia, particularly prospects in the Philippines. At the rate Filipinos are learning about wines, Manila could yet become Asia's future wine capital.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

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A fun way for kids to learn to tell time

TUC Tuc's its robust textile strap is decorated with little multicolored racing cars. The Pinkies makes little girls see the world through rose-colored glasses with a robust strap featuring fantasy giraffes.

LET kids have lots of fun under the sun with the new collection of Flik Flak.

Swiss-made, the watches have a shock-resistant aluminum case, scratchproof mineral glass, durable strap, quartz precision and water-resistance up to 30 meters. The watches can be machine-washed at 40°C, preferably wrapped in a sock.

The new collection carries on the tradition of teaching children to tell time while having fun. Certain models even make sure the children know exactly which hand indicates the hour and which hand the minutes. Flak, the hour hand, is in red, while Flik, the minute hand, is in blue. All models have very easy-to-read dials.

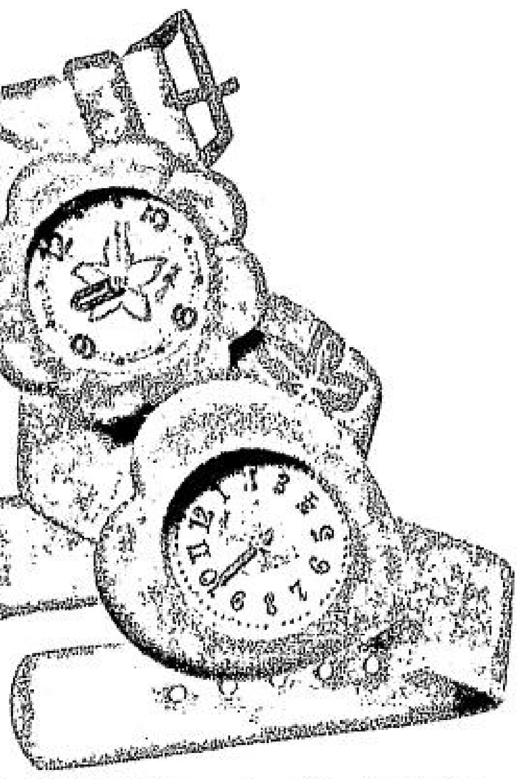
Designed by a team of psychologists and pedagogy experts, the Flik Flak time teaching concept leaves nothing to chance—watches made for younger children contain a cardboard dock to facilitate learning. Models available are:

Mademoiselle Pirouette offers little girls a Flik Flak watch and a music box. Flak dances to the sound of the Magic Flute in front of a little heart-shaped mirror. The music box is also a jewelry case with a secret compartment and a little ring whose color matches the watch.

Pinkies takes little girls on a dream journey, visiting pink giraffes at a circus. With Tuc Tuc, boys will become little racecar champions while the Bongoboon, a khaki-colored, jungle-themed Scuba watch, is perfect for little adventurers.

The romantic Mon Petit Coeur wristwatch will follow the rhythm of little girls with a love for life. The Bluana, with its marine-style theme, evokes memories of the sea.

A Flik Flak watch will make the perfect graduation gift to the young ones. It is exclusively distributed by Gift Gate Inc. Flik Flak is available at all Swatch stores and kiosks and Gift Gate stores nationwide.



WITH ITS flower-shaped bezel and the blue flower-inspired strap and dial, the Bluana watch is perfect for an outing by the beach. Mon Petit Coeur follows the pattern of little girls with its unmistakable bezel and its fantasy numbers.

Asia Pacific cable network 2 launched

AROUND 600 PLDT corporate customers, government officials and partner carriers attended the recent launching of the Asia Pacific Cable Network 2 (APCN 2) at the New World Renaissance Hotel.

With the theme "Connect to Compete," the launch introduced to PLDT's corporate customers the APCN2 system, an infrastructure built specifically for the Internet, which requires high bandwidth. PLDT invested $49.19 million in this project.

APCN 2 is a network comprising approximately 19,000 km of optical fiber submarine cable, put up at 10 locations in eight countries. It is the first high bandwidth system in the Asia-Pacific region, which employs the latest state-of-the-art technology for greater network resiliency and route diversity.

Highlight of the launching rites was a videoconference participated in by PLDT executive vice president Ricardo R. Zarate from the Philippines, NTT Com SVP Satoshi Fujita from Tokyo, Japan and StarHub vice president Mike Reynolds from Singapore.

Ryan Cayabyab provided the entertainment as he "scored," live on a baby grand piano the spoofs, sketches and songs on communication that the group performed with Jeff Arcilla, Carlo Orosa, Cathy Azzanza, Sweet Plantado and Ampy Sieterreales.

VICE President Teofisto T. Guingona Jr. (fourth from left) leads the ceremonial toast during the launching ceremonies of the Asia-Pacific Cable Network 2. Joining him in the toast are DOTC Undersecretary Agustin R. Bengzon, DTI Undersecretary Gregory L. Domingo, Embassy of Japan commercial attaché Yoshimasa Sakai and PLDT president Manuel V. Pangilinan

DE VENECIAS AT ROME EMBASSY. The Philippine ambassador to Italy, Philippe Lhuillier, and his wife Edna welcomed House Speaker Jose de Venecia to the Philippine Embassy in Rome, Italy during a recent visit. The speaker was accompanied by his wife, Gina, and Rome-based Cardinal Sanchez. Ambassador Lhuillier, Speaker De Venecia and Cardinal Sanchez discussed the welfare of overseas Filipino workers in Italy and the state of relations between the two countries. From left, Gina de Venecia, Cardinal Sanchez, Speaker Jose de Venecia, Ambassador Philippe Lhuillier and Edna Lhuillier

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Awards for decent public exposure

THE CEREMONIES for the 37th Anvil Awards given out by the Public Relations Society of the Phils. (PRSP) went short and sweet, thanks to outgoing president Col. Honesto Isleta, who set out to keep it that way.

The Grand Anvil Award was given to Shell Phils. Exploration B.V. for its "Malampaya Birth of Natural Gas Industry," which also got the award for outstanding program/project in support of corporate image.

A Bronze Anvil Award, given out by Anvil for the first time in its history, was bestowed on Petron Corp. for the eye-catching Art-Petron collaterals it used to support the competition among college students that yielded interpretations of the Filipino indigenous games featured in Petron's 2002 corporate calendar.

ArtPetron also won three awards of excellence in the categories of public affairs program, electronic and interactive media, and promotional collaterals.

Public affairs institutional and corporate PR programs in civic consciousness, art and culture and science and technology advancement went to Habitat for Humanity's World Leaders Build, ArtPetron and Intel Teach to the Future, respectively.

The winning programs or projects directed at specific groups included the 3rd National Ayala Young Leaders Congress, which targeted the youth; Volunteerism in Action, which targeted employees and families; and Computer-Eyes, which focused on the blind.

Special events winners were Celebrating Earth Month/Day, Petron's Lakbay Alalay 2001; and the advertorial "Did you know?" series on Philippine banking.

GMA Inc. took an award of excellence home for "GMA Gold 50 Years of Broadcast History," a coffee-table book edited by PDI Lifestyle editor Chelo Banal-Formoso published to mark the network's 50 years in the broadcasting industry.

Other winners for their tools of public relations were the Ayala Group of Co. for its Unified Annual Reports, the INQUIRER for its commemorative address book, and the audiovisual presentation "Reducing Poverty in Asia and the Pacific."

Awards of merit also went to the institutional and corporate programs—NBI Clearance Renewal Program; Domex Hygiene Advisory Service; Johnson & Johnson Outstanding Midwives Awards of the Phils.; Give a Can, Give Hope; Kontra Kalat sa Dagat year 3; Coca-Cola's Little Red Schoolhouse Project and the First National Metrobank Math Challenge: Building a Nation of Math Wizards; DOH & Lifebouy Health Promotion day for Women; PBSP 2000-2001 Fund Campaign; and Thomasites' "One Hundred Years 1901-2001, A Century of Education for All."

The programs/projects in support of marketing, advocacy and corporate image given merit awards were Nido Little Artists Workshop & Exhibits; BPI Commemorative Stamp and BPI Fully Loaded Madness.

Other awarded PR tools were the PDI Corporate Brochure; Geological Wonders of the Philippines calendar; Sanctuaries: Protected Areas of the Philippines; FireBringer: 40 years of First Philippine Holdings 1961-2001 and Biyaheng Pinoy Komiks Magasin; and the exhibition "A Brief History of Philippine Postage, Currency & Art" at the Philippine Army Museum.

GRAND awardee Shell Philippines Exploration B.V. executives strike a happy pose at the PRSP's 37 Anvil Awards with producers of their winning video "Malampaya: Birth of Natural Gas."
PHOTO: ROMY HOMILLADA

AWARD of excellence for a published PR tool is accepted by Ma. Corazon Lopez and Carmencita Arce from Anvil Awards judges for the coffee-table book "GMA Gold: 50 Years of Broadcasting History."
PHOTO: ROMY HOMILLADA

PETRON gets the bronze and other awards of excellence and merit. From left, Eduardo Alcaraz, 37th Anvil Awards chair; Water Tan, Petron VP for marketing; Nicasio Alcantara, Petron chair; Enrico Jereza, Pentron industrial tool manager; Felipe Alfonso, chair of the Anvil board of judges, and Honesto Isleta, PRSP president

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FOR SALE
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Fly High
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PARTY animal
LOGO PRTYANML
LOGO CAR3
LOGO CAR5
LOGO SPIDER1
LOGO LAMP
Super
LOGO SUPER
LOGO LOOK3
ROCK ROLL
LOGO ROCKROLL
LOGO RELAX1
LOGO CARROT1
LOGO CIGAR1
DANGER
LOGO DANGER3
LOGO CITY2
LOGO CLOWN1
LOGO SAMURAI
Sweetheart
LOGO SWEETHEART
LOGO TADPOLE1
24%
LOGO STATBAR1
PARTY Girl
LOGO PRTYGRL
LOGO SUNGLASS3
LOGO SUNSET1
LOGO BFLY3
This side up.
LOGO THISSIDEUP
???????
LOGO WHO
LOGO LIMO1
LOGO HELMET1
LOGO SCORPION1
LOGO SHOUT2
LOGO PARACHUTE
LOGO PATTERN1
LOGO PATTERN6
LOGO LOOK
LOGO LOOK2
LOGO NUUH

RINGTONES

Incomplete
Sisqo
Keyword: TONE INCOMPLETE

Butterfly
Keyword: TONE BUTTERFLY

Dancing Queen
Abba
Keyword: TONE DANCEQUEEN

Lambada
Keyword: TONE LAMBADA

Electric Typewriter
zed
Keyword: TONE TYPEWRITER

Horny
Keyword: TONE HORNY

And I Love Her
Beatles
Keyword: TONE ANDILOVE

Fool On the Hill
Beatles
Keyword: TONE FOOLONTHE

Ob La Di, Ob La Da
Beatles
Keyword: TONE OBLADI

When I'm Sixty Four
Beatles
Keyword: TONE WHEN64

Honey Pie
Beatles
Keyword: TONE HONEYPIE

I Feel Fine
Beatles
Keyword: TONE IFEEL

Got To Get You Into My Life
Beatles
Keyword: TONE GOTTOGET

Can't Buy Me Love
Beatles
Keyword: TONE CANTBUY

In My Life
Beatles
Keyword: TONE INMYLIFE

Michelle
Beatles
Keyword: TONE MICHELLE

We Can Work It Out
Beatles
Keyword: TONE WECANWORK

With A Little Help From My Friends
Beatles
Keyword: TONE WITHHELP

Strawberry Fields Forever
Beatles
Keyword: TONE STRAWBERRY

American Junk
Apo Hiking Society
Keyword: TONE AMERICANJUNK

Blue Jeans
Apo Hiking Society
Keyword: TONE BLUEJEANS

Anna
Apo Hiking Society
Keyword: TONE ANNA

Batang Bata Ka Pa
Apo Hiking Society
Keyword: TONE BATANGBATA

Disco Araw-Araw
Apo Hiking Society
Keyword: TONE DISCOARAW

Doo Bidoo
Apo Hiking Society
Keyword: TONE DOOBIDOO

Handog ng Pilipino
Apo Hiking Society
Keyword: TONE HANDOGPILIPINO

Saan na nga Bang Barkada Ngayon
Apo Hiking Society
Keyword: TONE SANBARKADA

When I Met you
Apo Hiking Society
Keyword: TONE WHENIMETU

Tell Me
Side A
Keyword: TONE TELLME

Saranggola Ni Pepe
Celeste Legaspi
Keyword: TONE SARANGGOLA

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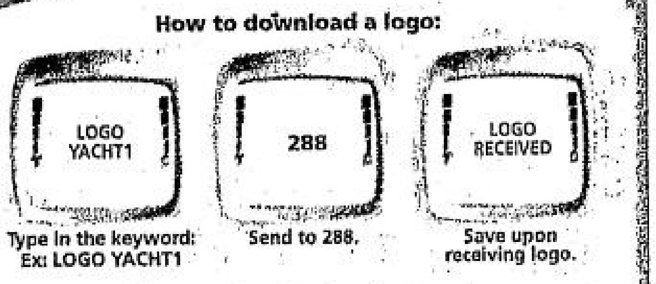
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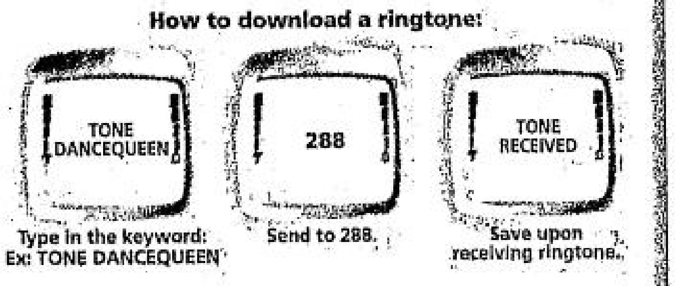
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Say 'I do' to a thematic, trendy and budget-wise wedding

By Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Joan Bondoc

ENGAGED couples are now more practical in planning their weddings. Since they usually pay for their own weddings—as opposed to tradition where parents pay for everything—they want to get the most value for their money. This, however, does not mean they sacrifice style. Inexpensive is not synonymous with plain and shabby.

Last weekend's Wedding Expo Philippines, organized by Themes and Motifs-The Special Events Co. and copresented by The Heritage Hotel and this section's Weddings and Engagements subsection, brought together over 150 of the country's finest wedding suppliers offering to provide exactly what soon-to-wed couples want. The two-day event held at the NBC Tent at The Fort showcased the latest trends and styles in weddings and gave away big discounts and promos.

Elegant start

Fine wedding invitations were exhibited by Paper Elegance (tel. 371-9783, 871-0323), a company that offers products of simple elegance popular in the United States. No silly ribbons and tacky lace trimmings, thank you. "You can pick out a design from our catalog and your invitations will be made in the US," says Geraldine Parreño. Using Crane's paper and other high-end brands, Paper Elegance's prices are surprisingly competitive, as low as P50 a piece for a minimum of 100 pieces.

Fashion designer Michi Calica Sotto says practicality is a trademark of today's bridal fashion. Many couples, who have to pay for the wedding, opt to have the ceremony out of town with a pared down guest list. The bride chooses lightweight materials like chiffon, a smaller train and less embellishments.

But Sotto, who showcased her own Japanese-influenced wedding gown, says modern Filipino brides are also becoming adventurous.

"They are very thematic," the designer says. They want drama and some twist in their weddings. Sotto, who will soon do a Boracay beach wedding, says, "I did one with 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' as theme. I used a lot of olives and fuchsias. The little attendants even wore wings."

Trendy brides, the designer says, should attend exhibits to keep abreast of the latest styles.

The wedding cake need no longer be only for the cake-cutting ceremony either. "A lot of Filipinas come home from the United States to get married," says Maite Gregorio of Cake Concepts Unlimited (tel. 723-2534/2570). Exposed to American tradition, "they want the guests to partake of the cake, too," she says, "so they opt for nonfondant cakes. *Hindi nasasayang.*" She says homegrown brides are

SAY/ p.E4

WHAT'S ON ROBINSONS

Jericho Rosales Kristine Hermosa

Catch television's hottest loveteam as they serenade shoppers with songs from their debut album by Star Records.

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Robinsons Place Novaliches

April 20, Sunday, 4pm
Orosa Atrium
Robinsons Place Manila

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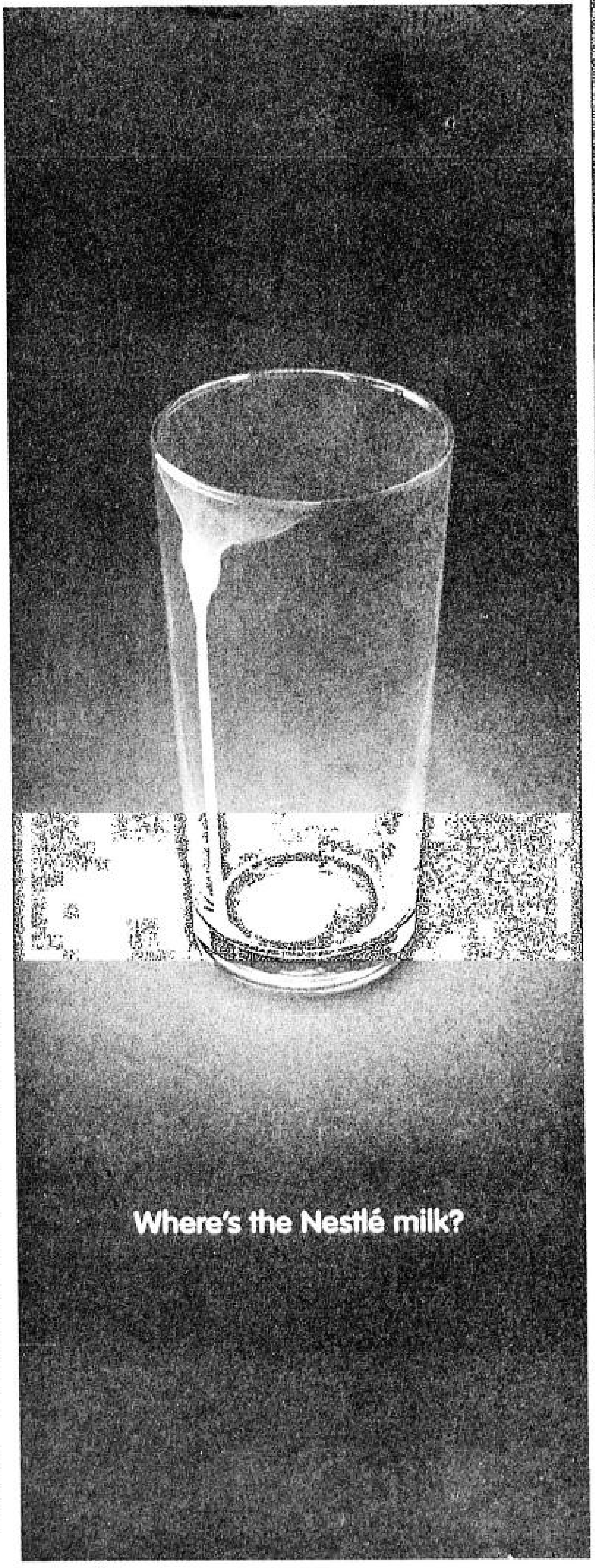

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Cathedral of St. Anthony de Padua in Masbate needs funds for renovation

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

DEVOTEES of St. Anthony de Padua will be happy to know that there is a pilgrimage site in Masbate called the Cathedral of St. Anthony de Padua.

The cathedral is located in the capital town—a comforting edifice where one can pray to St. Anthony, the miracle worker. That is exactly what I did when my companions Tony Adriano, Noli Veridico and Rose Arcenas Ong, who is from the town, arrived at the church in the early morning of April 4.

I sat there in front of the lifesize statue of the saint, talking to him like an old friend, while Tony did drawings of the proposed altar. Noli measured the walls and flooring.

We were there upon the invitation of bishop Joel Zamudio Baylon who is the honorary chair of the Project Cathedral Wings committee, which is undertaking the fund-raising for the cathedral's renovation.

Masbate as a religious place

Contrary to negative rumors that Masbate is a violent place, the people are deeply religious. The Augustinians came in 1579 and settled in the town of San Pascual. Mobo became the center of the province much later.

Masbate as a province was ceded to the province of Sorsogon in 1901 due to an epidemic that swept the province at the time. It became a province again in 1924.

Today the diocese of Masbate covers 28 parishes in 21 municipalities. There are seven barrio parishes. There are four parishes on the island of Ticao and three in Burias. There are 70 priests, 56 are active, while the rest are on "assist" program.

Rev. Marvin Corbita, when ordained on May 28, will be the new priest. He studied at the University of Navarre.

The Daughters of St. Joseph, a religious order founded by the late Bishop Porfirio Iligan, helps the bishop and the parish, which is headed by Msgr. Quintin Feraren Jr.

Blessings in Masbate

The province of Masbate is 101 years old. It is surrounded by Masbate Bay. There is an abundance of seafood and fruits and vegetables. We were served *sinigang na malasugui* cooked by Cookie Medina, the son of the owner of Rendezvous Resort Hotel. Thanks to Totie Zafra, the provincial tourism and sports officer, we had a beautiful experience with Masbate food.

On our tour of the town using Clara Liok's car driven by Roberto Española, we saw Villa Bayot, the residence of Patrocinio Bayot whose family always lends its big statues for the Good Friday procession. Her niece, Carmen Bayot Garcia, is proud to say she is from Masbate.

Other blessings of the town include having two airlines to transport passengers from Manila, namely Asian Spirit and Laoag International Airlines. Captain Pacheco of Asian Spirit made a smooth landing when we went back to Manila on April 5.

Those from Sorsogon can take the sea craft plying to Masbate from Pilar. Big ferryboats ply the Cebu-Masbate route.

100-room hotel in Milagros

Dr. Angel de Castro Jr. has stayed home to take over the management of a local hospital in Milagros town. His father Angel de Castro Sr. used to manage it. He told us that the European Union will put up a 100-room hospital in Milagros as it did in Laoag City.

The Church of St. Joseph is across the hospital with Fr. Ely Alvarez as parish priest. Milagros used to be called Assid, according to Purificacion Medina-Arcenas, mother of Rose Ong. St. Joseph and the Blessed Mother prevented pirates from entering the town during the Spanish occupation. Hence, it was called Milagros.

Cathedral needs repair

With its ceiling dotted with holes that allow rainwater to pass through, the Cathedral of St. Anthony de Padua needs to be renovated, and two wings ought to be added on both sides to accommodate more people for Sunday Masses and liturgical celebrations.

A project Cathedral Wings committee was created with lawyer Rainier Butalid, general counsel of Napocor; businessman Jose Uy Arollado; Dr. Lalaine Arcenas-Rapadas and Lydia Valencia-Montfort as members. Architect Rey Uy made the plans for renovation.

Well-known church interior designer Tony Adriano designed the main altar with the help of his assistant, Noli Veridico. The Parish Pastoral Council was able to gather 1,122 pledges from parishioners.

In an effort to gather Masbateños in Metro Manila, a fellowship and Holy Mass will be held at the San Jose Seminary Chapel on April 28 at 4 p.m. Those who wish to attend can call Dr. Lalaine Rapadas at (0917) 394-9874, Lydia Montfort at (0919) 877-7238 or Sonia de Dios at 563-0157.

BISHOP Joel Baylon (second from left) shows plans to architech Rey Uy, Monsignor Feraren, Tony Adriano, Noli Veridico, lawyer Rainier Butalid and Jose Arollado.

Those who wish to donate can write to Bishop Joel Baylon, Bishop's Residence, Masbate City. Make checks payable to Diocese of Masbate-Project Catheral Wings.

Thanks to Ching Valencia Dimen, Nene Medina and Rose Ong for making our stay memorable.

'Manaoag' in Cebu airport

THE IMAGE of Our Lady of Manaoag was enthroned at the chapel of the Mactan International Airport in Cebu April 5. The Mass was attended by airport staff, relatives and employees.

Fr. Pious Alejo, airport chaplain, concelebrated the Mass with Fr. Ruben Labajo, parish priest of Bantayan Island; Fr. Maning Salarda, parish priest of Caibiran, Biliran, Leyte; and Father Thomas, O.S.B., who did the enthronement.

Our Lady of Manaoag feast

Devotees of Our Lady of Manaoag will drive to Manaoag, Pangasinan on April 17 for the feast of Our Lady. Our Lady has two feast days. The next one is on Oct. 7.

Triduum to St. Expeditus

St. Andrew Church in La Huerta, Parañaque will hold a Triduum of Masses April 16-18 at 6 p.m. Fiesta Mass is at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. A procession will follow the 6 p.m. Mass. This is being organized by the Society of St. Expeditus.

St. Expeditus in Divine Mercy Shrine

THERE will also be Triduum Masses in honor of St. Expeditus on April 17-19, 9 a.m., at the Divine Mercy Shrine in Marilao, Bulacan. Cynthia Cruz donated the image.

Celebration in Polangui, Albay

Devotees of St. Expeditus in Polangui, Albay have organized themselves into the Confraternity of St. Expeditus. Devotion to St. Expeditus has become more intense since miracles have happened through his intercession. As thanksgiving, Masses are being offered by devotees during the ongoing nine-day novena until April 18 and on his feast on April 19.

Testimony of help

Rochelle Gamboa from the Immaculate Conception Parish in Bauan, Batangas wrote to confirm St. Expeditus' help after their family's business closed in 1997.

Rochelle read my column about St. Expeditus where I published the prayer to him to obtain money. She and her husband were in great debt. The saint helped them when they decided to go to the United States to try their luck there. Her son was born there after seven years of trying to have another child.

Rochelle and her family are back with a new business. They are now propagating the devotion to St. Expeditus. They ordered a statue from Francisco Vecin and enthroned it in the church last year.

Correct telephone numbers

SO sorry for the wrong telephone numbers of Raymond Javellana, who is arranging the trip to Rome for Blessed Escriva's canonization, which were published last Sunday. Please try calling him again at (0917) 832-6003, 826-4408 or 826-7565.

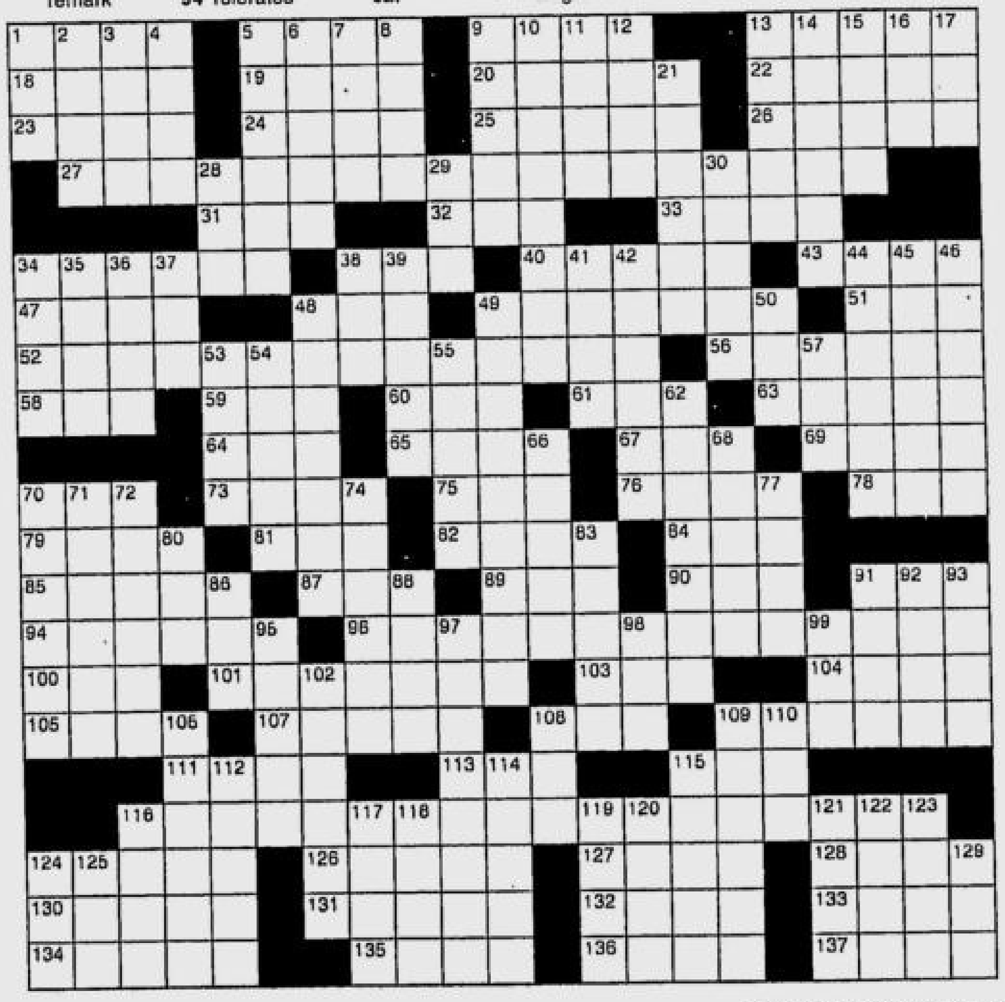
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

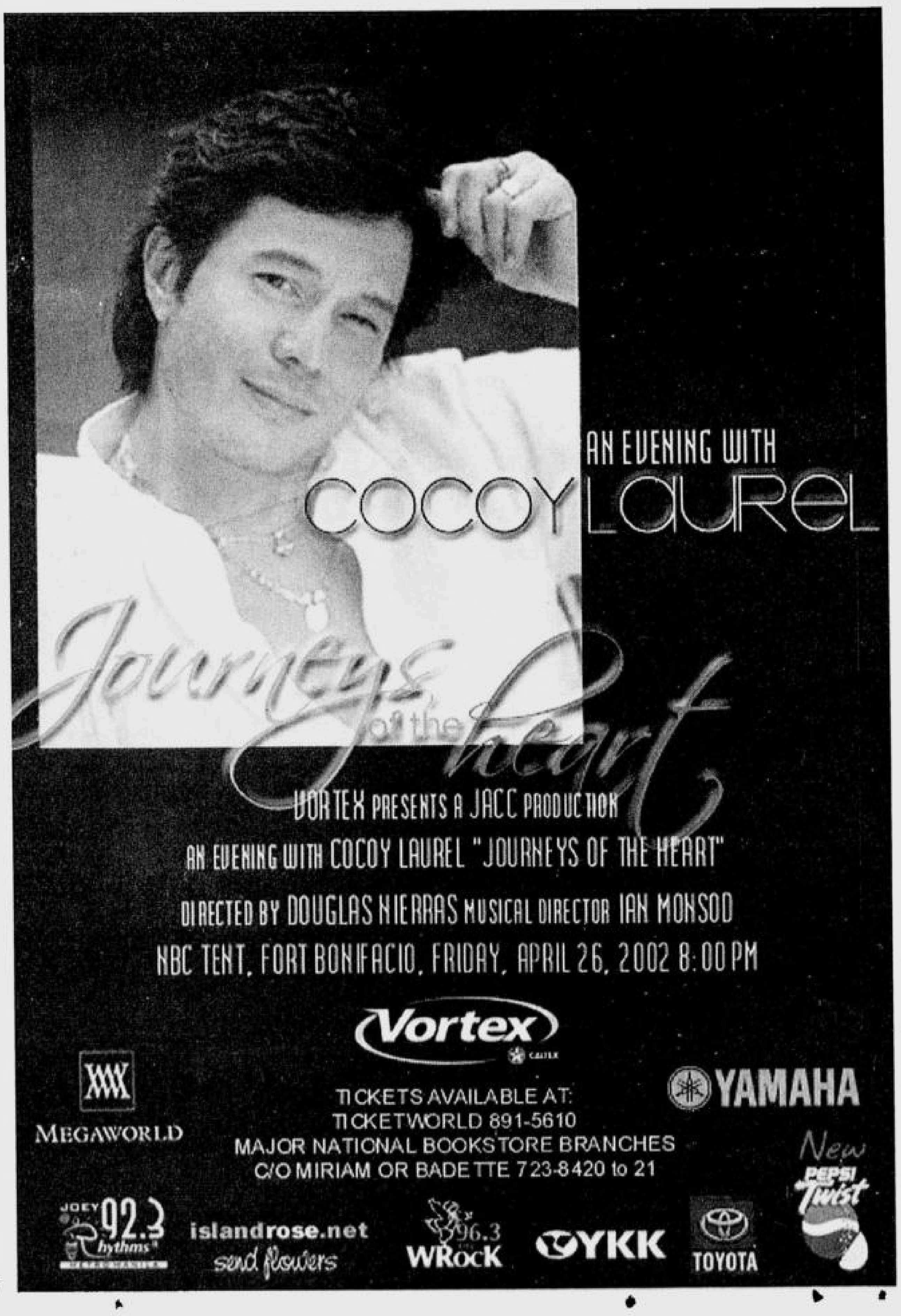
1 Rank
5 Gregory Peck role
9 First herdsman
13 Make a point
18 Spread in a tub
19 Portrait painter Peter
20 Packed the freight
22 Restaurant freebie
23 TV's "— Shadows"
24 Boxer Max
25 Declaim
26 Part owner?
27 Start of a remark by Steve Allen
31 Whichever
32 Klutz
33 Actress Pitts
34 Firm
38 Yellowstone hrs.
40 Joyce Carol —
43 Faction
47 Horne or Olin
48 HS exam
49 Sang on a mountain
51 Bovine bellow
52 Part 2 of remark
56 One of the Jacksons
58 Mexican Mrs.
59 Hubbub
60 Ott or Gibson
61 Tasty tuber
63 Los —, CA
64 Dachshund-like
65 Cronies
67 Collar a crook
69 Rocker Joan
70 Deranged
73 O'Neill hardwoods
75 Part 3 of remark
76 Sunflower support
78 Actress Susan
79 Heavy metal
81 Proverb
82 Bit of kindling
84 Mao —-tung
85 Praised passionately
87 Teachers' org.
89 Tallahassee sch.
90 Shorten a skirt
91 Woods' grp.
94 Tolerates
96 Part 4 of remark
100 "The Longest Day" extras
101 Austere
103 Pledge
104 Hit the chips
105 Return address?
107 — salts
108 Mozart's "Cosi — tutte"
109 Artful
111 Wall Street pessimist
113 Pressure meas.
115 Flagon filler
116 End of remark
124 Damascus' nation
126 Spock on "Star Trek"
127 Neighbor of 124 Across
128 Competes
130 Pile up
131 Artery implant
132 Famed orca
133 Bjorn's opponent
134 Football's Lavelli
135 TV host John
136 Healing plant
137 Canadian cat

DOWN

1 Roy's "The — of Small Things"
2 Jai —
3 TV tycoon Griffin
4 Garment feature
5 Hudson River city
6 Hard to lift
7 Away from the wind
8 Pole star?
9 "Hi, Ho!"
10 Simon's "— in the Park"
11 Dutch town
12 Apollo's mom
13 Vacillates
14 Defense plant?
15 Football Hall of Famer Jim
16 Rock's — Speedwagon
17 Fumble
21 Actor Washington
28 Cul-de- —
29 Little one
30 Stand for Steen
34 Heidi's hangout
35 Paraphernalia
36 "Wild Child" singer
37 "Platoon" setting
38 Bud
39 "The Bristol —" ('61 hit)
41 "An apple — . . ."
42 Dan Rather and Trini Lopez
44 Hammed up "Hamlet"
45 Prairie wolf
46 Warm
48 Winter figure
49 Tuna type
50 Mr. Hammarskjold
53 New England campus
54 Celebrities
55 Had in mind
57 — Mahal
62 An Apostle
66 Rustle
68 Surround
70 Sahara vision
71 The Koran's language
72 Peaceful
74 Gives one's word
77 Note
80 Beatty or Rorem
83 Tropical fruit
86 — Plaines, IL
88 Choir member
91 Magic-show sound
92 Essence
93 Pale
95 "Aida" prop
97 Mocks
98 Ludwig — Drake
99 "Jurassic Park" stuff
102 Stage parts
106 Orchestra member
108 "Pshaw!"
109 In-crowd
110 Gun the engine
112 Expunge
114 Rocker Patty
115 Battle site of 1836
116 Fiber source
117 Skater Katarina
118 "Peter Pan" pirate
119 Louise or Turner
120 Articulated
121 Apt anagram of "vile"
122 Ingratiating
123 Regensburg refusal
124 Disconsolate
125 Singer Sumac
129 Gender



ANSWER ON PAGE E7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Deadline for submission of Mabini nominees set

THE DEADLINE for the submission of nominees for the 2002 Apolinario Mabini Awards is on April 30.

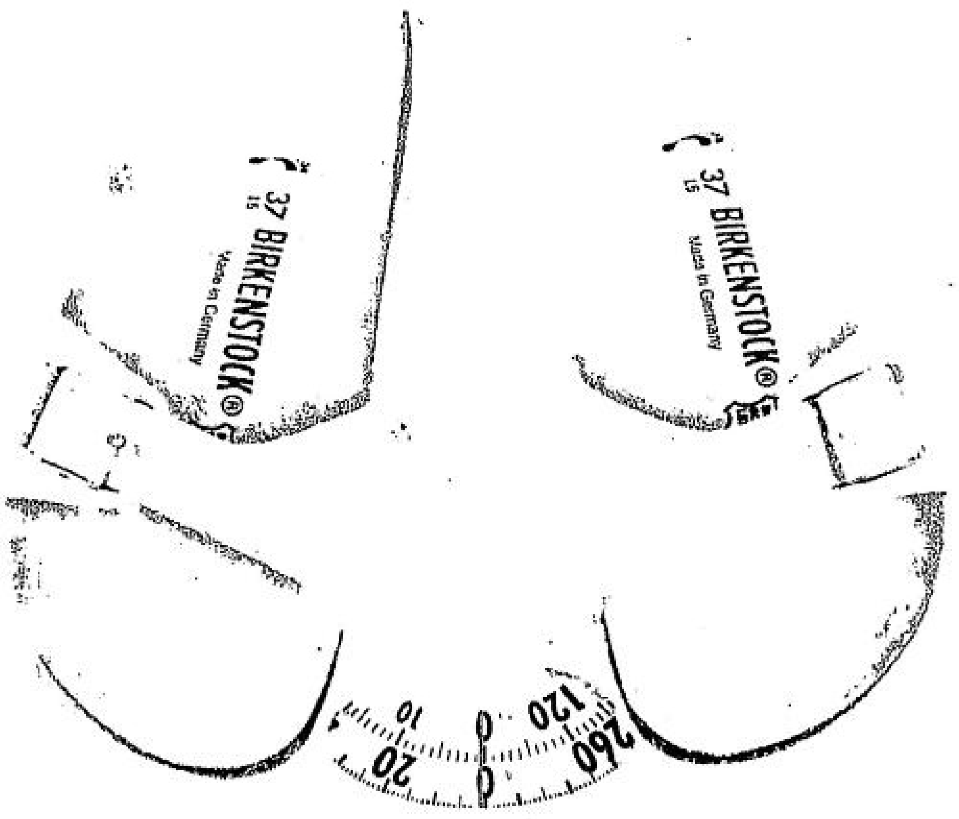
The Apolinario Mabini Awards give due recognition to disabled individuals who have made significant contributions in a particular field. It also honors organizations and institutions that render exceptional services to disabled Filipinos.

A yearly undertaking of the Philippine Foundation for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled Inc., the awards categories are: Disabled Filipino of the Year, Disabled Group of the Year, Employer of the Year, Disabled-Friendly Establishment, Local Government Unit of the Year, Rehabilitation Volunteer of the Year and Mabini Presidential Awards. Cash and trophies await the winners.

All nominations may be submitted on or before the deadline at the Congressional Spouses Foundation Inc., 3/F Main Building, Batasang Pambansa, QC. Presentation of awards is in July.

For nomination forms and additional information, call the nomination secretariat or Lilo Antonio at 931-5417.

FRANCESCO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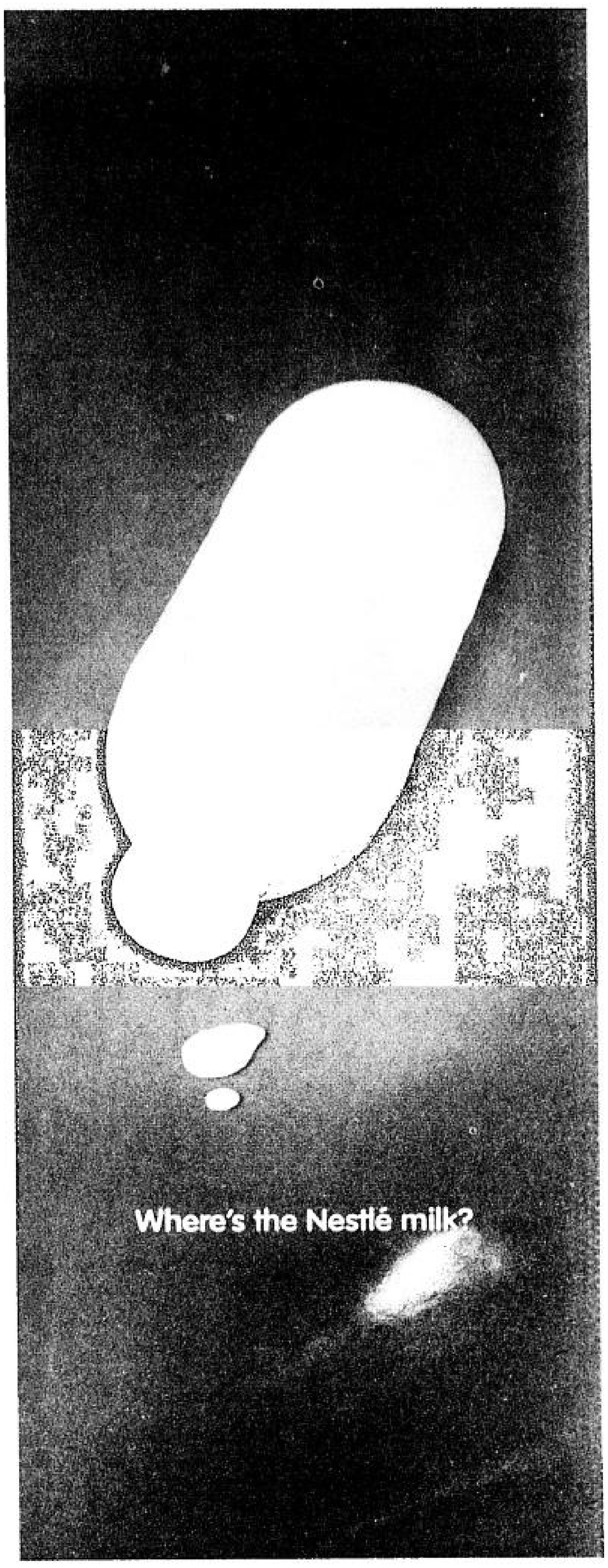
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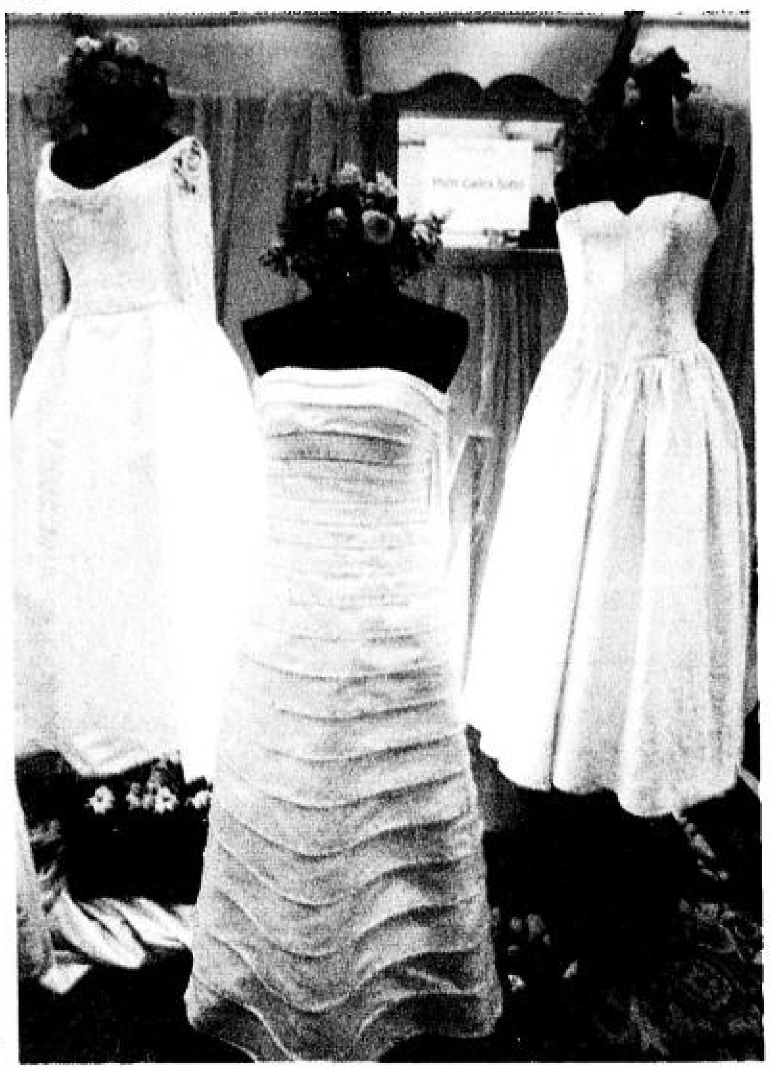
TOO PRETTY TO EAT... but Cake Concepts Unlimited's cakes are meant to be eaten.

WINGED BEAUTIES. Butterflies from Wings of Dreams take the place of flower confetti.



TRENDY or practical, brides go for Michi Calica Sotto's creations.

Say 'I do' to a thematic, trendy and budget-wise wedding

Fluttering butterflies, colorful fireworks and candid photos are just some of the things that today's engaged couples can have for their weddings

From page E1

following the example, paying as much as five figures for the cake alone.

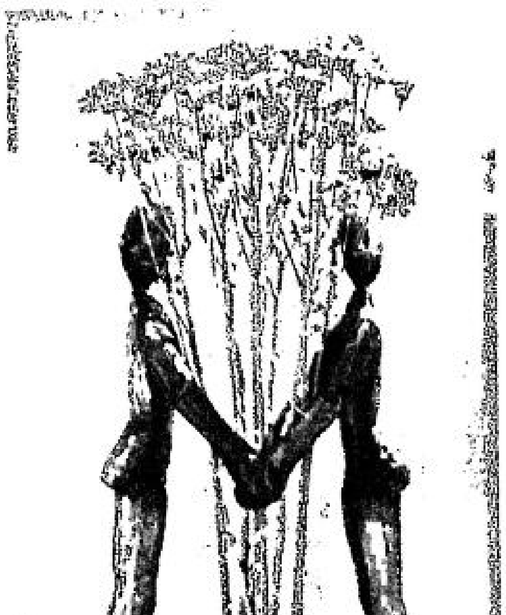
Gregorio, who has come up with several exquisite creations, says cakes can double as wedding giveaways. "Some couples ask me to make tiny satellite cakes and assemble them into a multitiered cake. After the reception, the cakes are given to the guests."

To meet the varying needs of her clients, Gregorio says she can customize her cakes, budget- and design-wise. "If they pick a particular design but they're on a budget, I can make a smaller version of the cake," she says.

And what's a wedding without flowers? Dorothy Albert Cuna (tel. 647-4212, 933-7170), an interior designer who now specializes in floral arrangements for weddings, suggests the use of posies for the bridal entourage. "This is the trend. Besides, pinning a corsage can ruin the fabric of the dress," she says. Boutonnieres are also out, she adds, unless the groom and his entourage are wearing suits or tuxedoes.

Cuna's company is adopting the warm, western fall colors—oranges, dark yellows and browns—and a smattering of greens in its floral designs. Rather unusual for a summer wedding, some might think. Not for Cuna. "I was jogging at the Ateneo one morning when I saw that the dried leaves were falling off the trees. Then it struck me. It's during summer here when leaves fall from trees. Summertime is like our autumn," she explains. "The effect is very romantic."

AUTUMN IN SUMMER. Fall colors dominate Dorothy Albert Cuna's floral designs.



KEEPSAKES. Topmark Interiors and Novelties' exquisite metal sculpture

STARMAKER Inc.'s fireworks display provides the backdrop for the fashion show.

New turn

Wedding photography is also changing. "A wedding is a happy event. [But] this feeling is not reflected in the traditional manner of taking pictures. The people look stiff," says Fol Rana Jr. (tel. 728-9194). He and his wife and business partner, Leslie, have added a new twist to wedding photography. Instead of the usual choreographed photos pasted on a thick album, the Ranas have come up with the ArtMag, a magazine-type collage of the photos, including candid shots, in digital layout. "We're taking out the difficulty in lugging around a heavy album," says Leslie. Couples may also opt for the ArtBook, the hardbound version of the ArtMag.

Rana, a banker whose passion is photography, says clients are assured of the quality of their output. "We put more into it because for us, it's not work but a passion."

A newcomer in the wedding favors/giveaways scene is Topmark Interiors and Novelties (tel. 942-2034), which makes elegant metal sculptures. "We used to only export our products," says Rowena Cuenca-Suarez, "but we're encouraged by the positive response and inquiries." Starting at P100 a piece, the metal artworks are, as the company says, "remarkably exquisite your guests may send you thank-you notes."

Thing of the past

Mariel Eduarte-Clark of Wings of Dreams Enterprise Inc. (tel. 867-4219) says showering a bride with petals as she walks down the aisle is now a thing of the past. Brides who want to add fantasy to their walk down the aisle can have live butterflies instead. "I used butterflies for my own wedding so I want other brides to experience the amazing beauty of these creatures, too," she says.

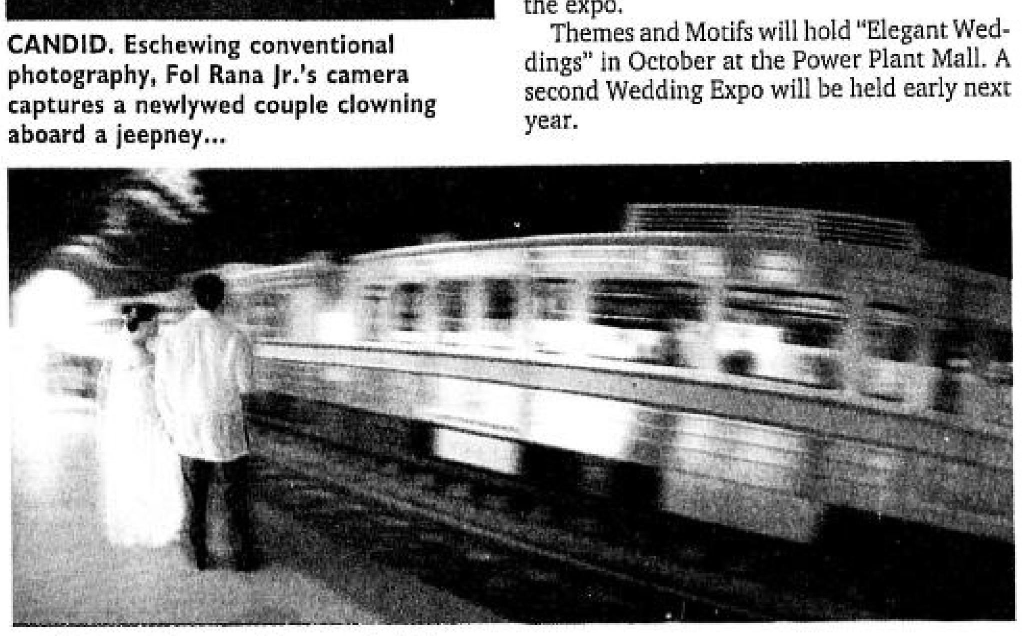
For brides who may not be comfortable having the live insects, Bubble Magic! (tel. 564-4190) offers another option, says PJ Martelino—the magic and enchantment of hundreds of floating bubbles. "Our [electric-powered] bubble equipment are imported from the US. Even the ingredients for the bubbles are imported so there is no risk of staining the wedding ensembles," he says.

CANDID. Eschewing conventional photography, Fol Rana Jr.'s camera captures a newlywed couple clowning aboard a jeepney...

Couples who want sparks to fly, literally, on their wedding day, can get the services of Starmaker Inc. (tel. 634-7555). Of course, the world-class fireworks display doesn't come cheap. "Our services start at P35,000, and that includes the setup, permit and five minutes of fireworks display," says Martin Co. He guarantees though that clients will get their money's worth as the company uses advanced Japanese technology and relies on the expertise of international consultants.

Spearheaded by the husband-and-wife team of Dodjie and Sharon Fabian, the first Wedding Expo has a roster of carefully selected exhibitors, ranging from the already established to the up-and-coming, to give couples options suited to their budget and style. Hourly raffles were held during the event, with a trip for two to Hong Kong as grand prize. The first issue of MOD Wedding Expo Philippines Magazine, the expo's exclusive publication, was also given away to guests. A fashion show featuring the latest in bridal wear was held on the final evening of the expo.

Themes and Motifs will hold "Elegant Weddings" in October at the Power Plant Mall. A second Wedding Expo will be held early next year.



... AND another catching a train ride.

Wedding becomes a legal affair

THE NEWLYWEDS lawyers Leo P. Moselina and Grace C. Agcaoili

IT was as if a peace agreement or a new human rights instrument was signed when lawyers Leo P. Moselina and Grace C. Agcaoili exchanged marriage vows on Feb. 23 at the San Agustin Church in Intramuros, Manila.

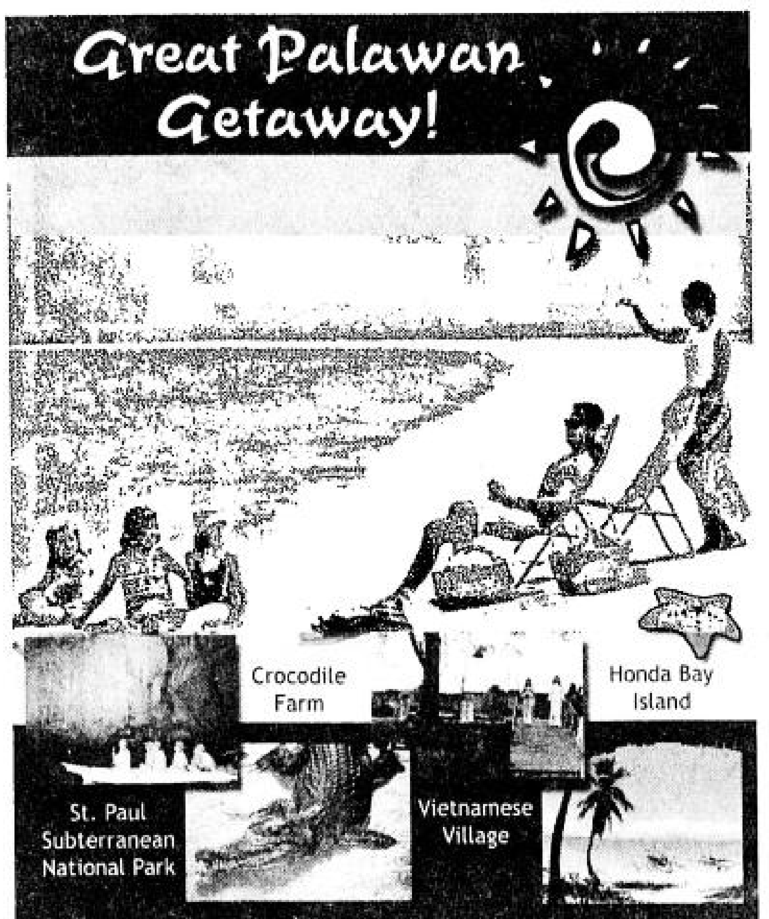
Peace and human rights advocates as well as professors and graduates of the Ateneo de Manila University and the University of the Philippines witnessed Leo and Grace make their wedding vows.

Fr. Joaquin O. Bernas S.J., dean of the Ateneo Law School, was the main celebrant while Fr. Bienvenido F. Nebres, S. J., president of the university, gave the homily.

Principal sponsors were Dr. Terrel Hill, country representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef); Commissioner Purificacion Quisumbing of the Commission on Human Rights; Justice Oswaldo Agcaoili of the Court of Appeals; Fidel Agcaoili of the National Democratic Front; Sedfrey Candelaria, associate dean of the Ateneo Law School; Myrna Feliciano, associate dean of the UP Law School; Judge Nimfa Vilches of the Regional Trial Court of Manila; Alberto Muyot of Unicef; Jacinto de la Rosa of De La Rosa Tejero Nograles Law Office; Ma. Victoria Juat of Unicef; Nolasco Moselina, Leo's uncle and a United States Navy officer; Herminia Patilano, Leo's grade school teacher; Violeta Peerson, Leo's aunt; and Shirley Torres, Grace's college professor at the Ateneo. Katrina Legarda led the congregation in their prayers for the newlyweds.

The bride is the eldest daughter of the late Aurelio S. Agcaoili and Josefina Castillejos of Laoag City.

WEDDING/ p.E7



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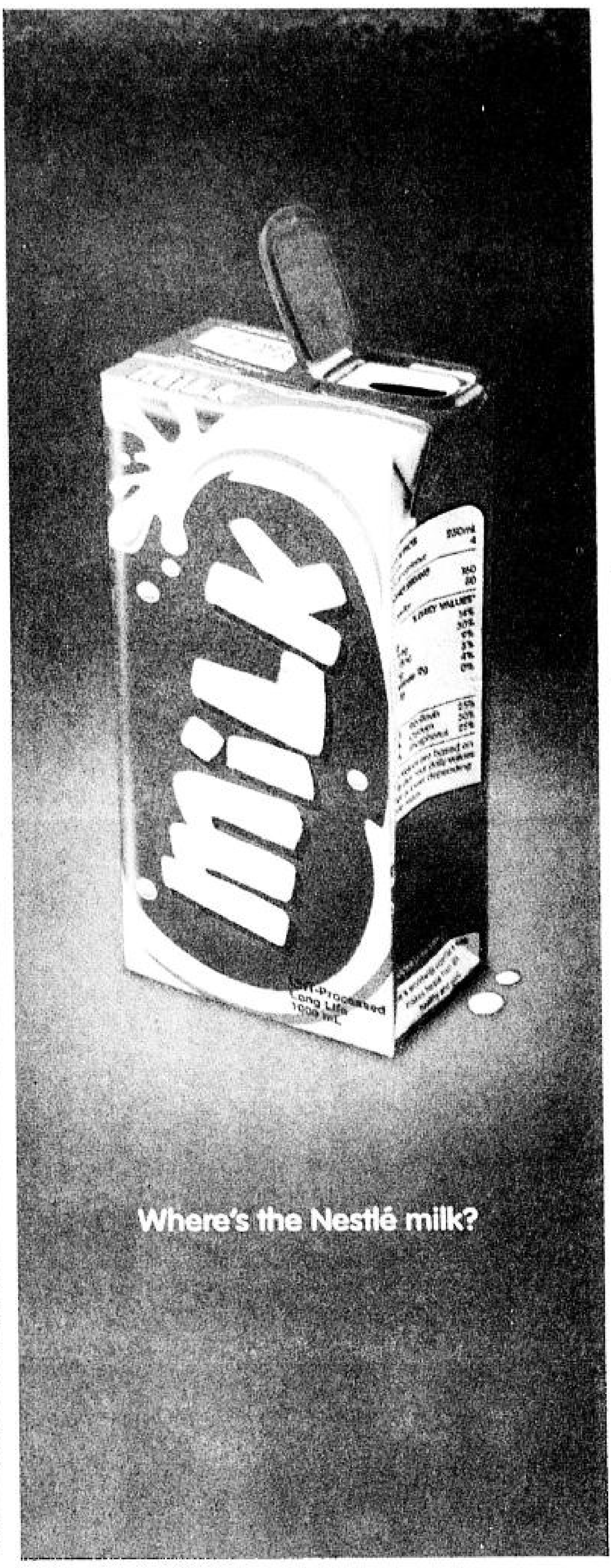

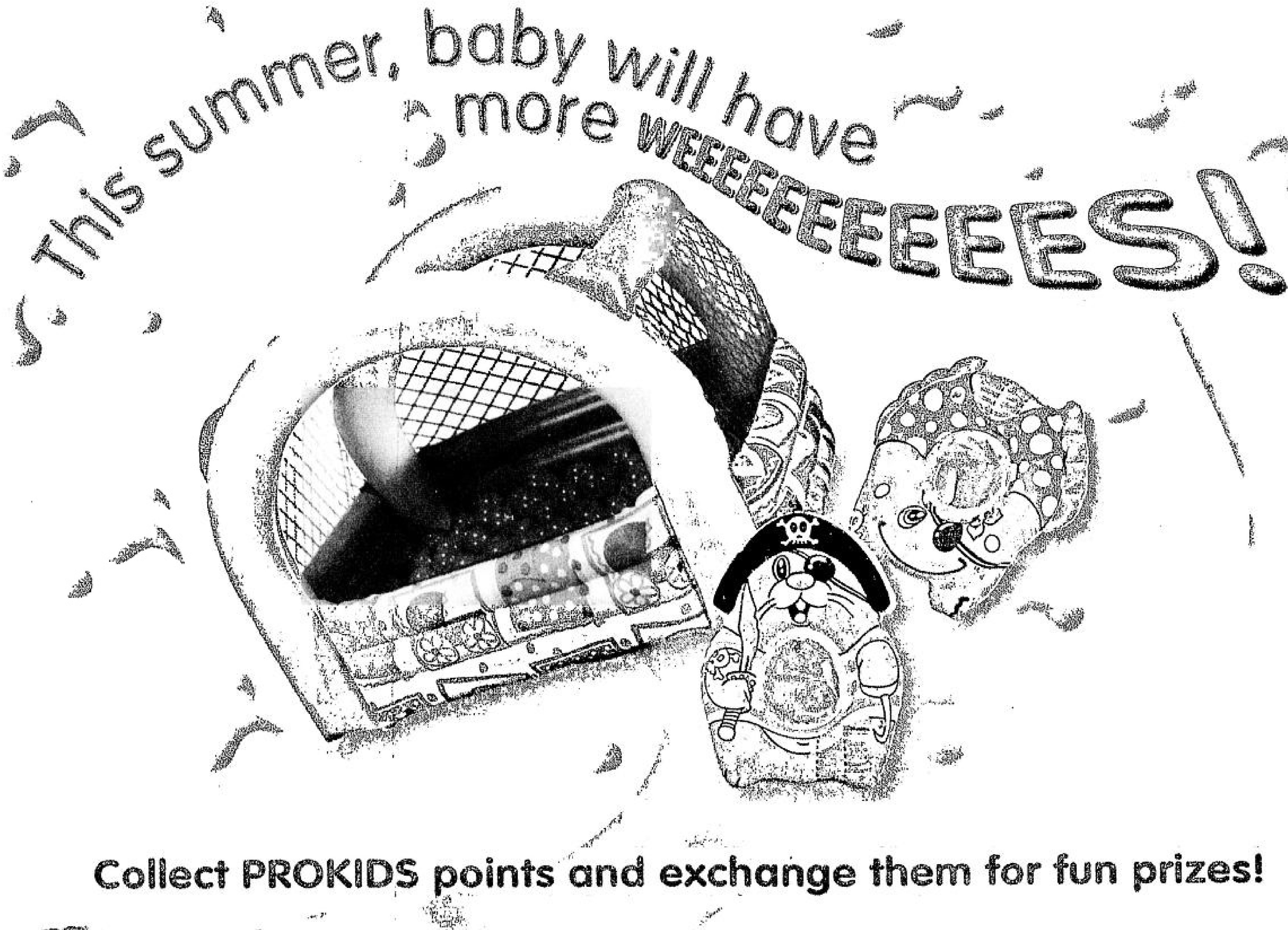

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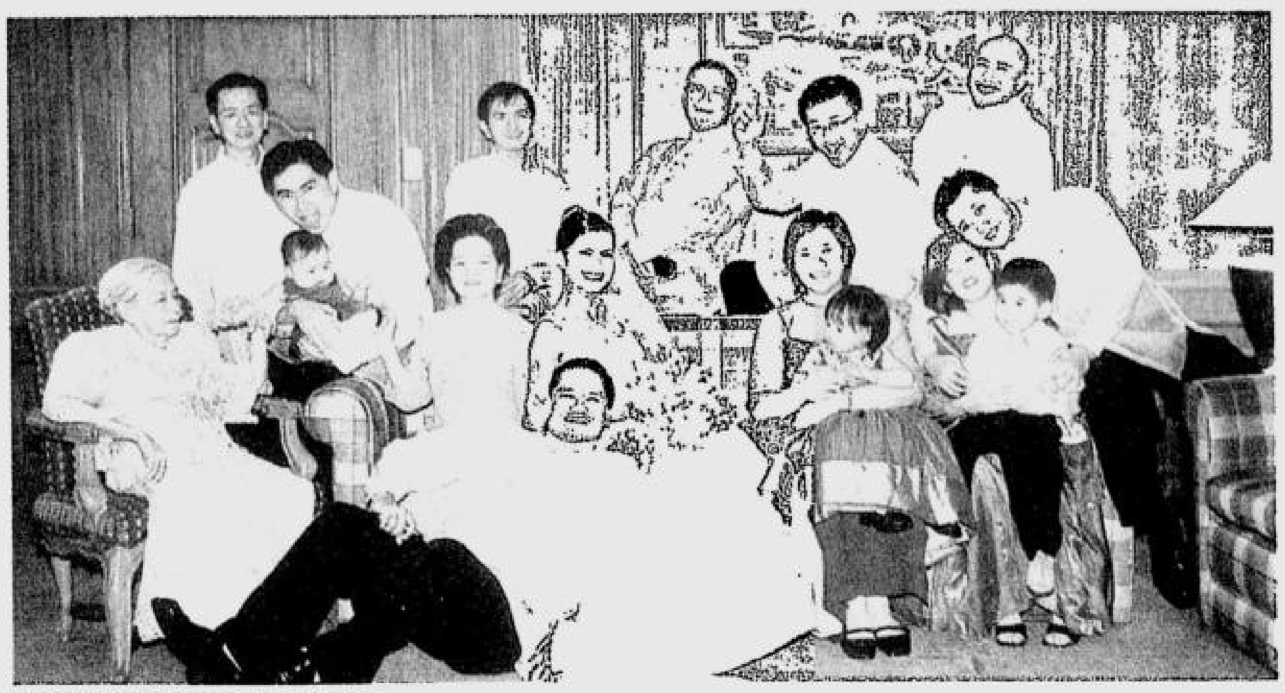
PROMO PERIOD: March 20-June 20, 2002 Per DTI-NCR no.0507, Series of 2002

MON and Marjorie with family and friends


THE WACKY side of the Cu clan

Love at first sight brings double happiness

THE NEWLYWEDS with (standing, from left) Anthony Ko, Manuel Monzon, (seated) Felix Co, Benito Ang and Danny Ortega

MON and Marjorie with buddies (from left) Iggy Castillion, Arnold Cu, Dioceldo Sy and Philip Go.

SHUANG xi, a sign of good fortune for newlyweds, is an appropriate symbol for the loving union of Solomon Cu and Marjorie Monzon.

Often used in traditional Chinese marriages, the Chinese characters that mean "double happiness" could best describe the couple's classic love-at-first-sight romance.

Solomon, or Mon, was a political science student at Adamson University when he first saw Marjorie, who was studying banking and finance. From that first moment, Mon knew that Marjorie was going to be an important part of his life.

After nurturing their relationship for seven years, Mon asked Marjorie to marry him last year. With the blessing of their parents, Buddy and Fely Cu and Manuel and Luzviminda Monzon, the couple first had a civil wedding. Then, to further strengthen their relationship, they had their church wedding recently at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception (Manila Cathedral) in Intramuros.

Marjorie was a radiant bride in a classic white gown designed by Ronald Arnaldo. She carried a delicate bouquet of oriental white blooms from the Flower Mill. The same white blooms lined the aisle as Marjorie walked with her father to the altar where the dashing groom waited.

Making up the wedding entourage were eight pairs of principal sponsors aside from the best man, maid of honor, groomsman, bridesmaid, secondary sponsors, ring and coin bearers and four flower girls. The wedding motif was blue.

Among the principal sponsors were Dioceldo Sy, chair of the Philippine Basketball League (PBL); Philip Go, owner of Sportium Phils. Inc.; Felix Co, owner of Maximedia; and Amylyn Sison-de Quiros, owner and president of Full Circle Communications. Other guests were Chino Trinidad of PBL, Paul Daza, Leo Isaac of Blue and actress Daisy Reyes.

Reception was held at the grand ballroom of Dusit Hotel Nikko.

MON and Marjorie share a light moment after the big event.

Milestones

We are accepting announcements of weddings, engagements and debuts. Send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least one month before the wedding at the Philippine Daily Inquirer, *P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

DE LA CRUZ-DALIDA

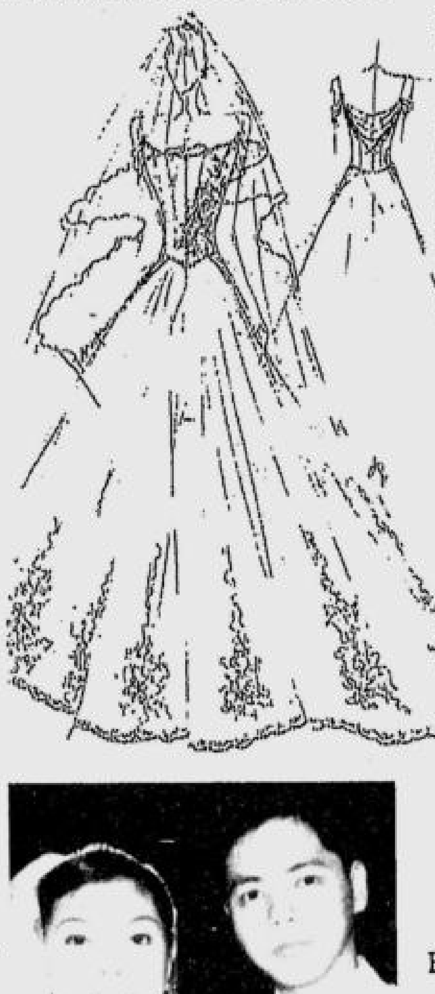
Hajeron P. de la Cruz, son of Mr. and Ms **Rolando C. de la Cruz,** will wed **Liza R. Dalida,** daughter of **Crisanta Reyes vda. de Dalida** and **Lolita Reyes vda. de Mangapit,** on May 11 in Laoag City. Rev. **Mariano Gonzales** will officiate. **Elizier Agbayani** designed the gown. Florist is **Rolly Dajugan.**

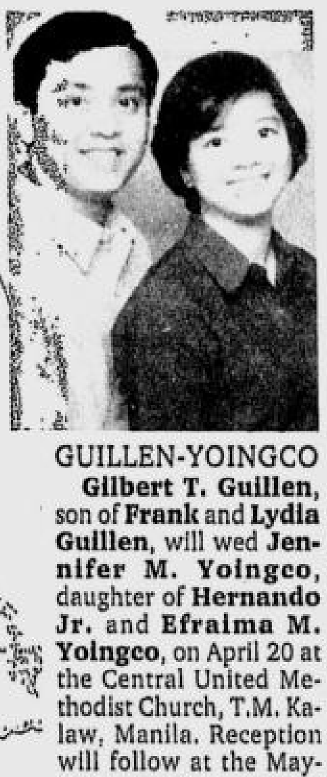
SAMONTE-ARRANZA

Patricia D. Arranza and **Ronald S. Samonte** will exchange marriage vows on April 21 at the San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila. The bride is the daughter of **Jesus** and **Evelyn Arranza.** A graduate of De La Salle University, she is taking an advanced course at the Philippine School of Interior Design. The groom, son of Doctors **Romeo** and **Amelia Samonte,** is a medical graduate of the University of Santo Tomas.

ODULIO-GAVINO

Dr. **Paolo R. Odulio** wed **Edna C. Gavino** wed on Sept. 15, 2001 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes. Reception was held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Aberdeen Court, QC.



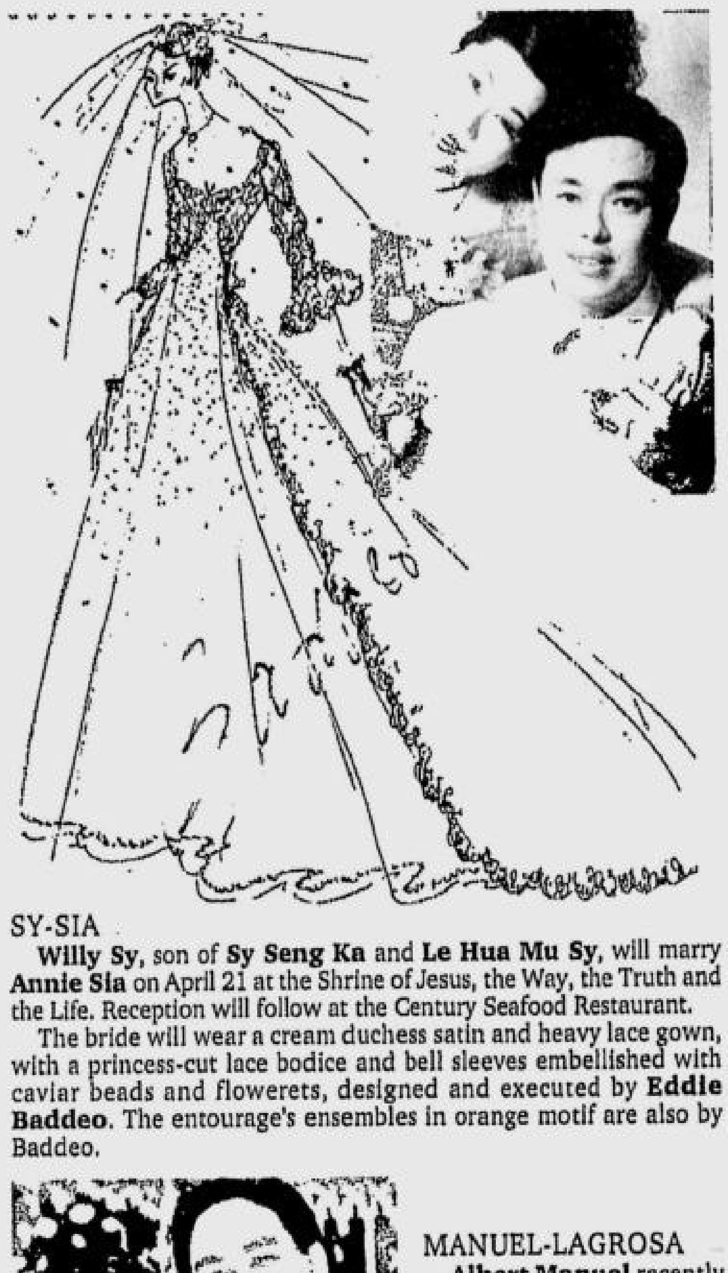


GUILLEN-YOINGCO

Gilbert T. Guillen, son of **Frank** and **Lydia Guillen,** will wed **Jennifer M. Yoingco,** daughter of **Hernando Jr.** and **Efraima M. Yoingco,** on April 20 at the Central United Methodist Church, T.M. Kalaw, Manila. Reception will follow at the Maynila Ballroom, Manila Hotel. Fashion Forward by **Benet Cabales** designed the gown.

ESPIRITU-BASILIO

Rodel S. Espiritu, son of **Roman** and **Emilia Espiritu,** exchanged marriage vows with **Anna Liza M. Basilio,** daughter of **Forester Carlos** and **Expedita Basilio,** on Jan. 26 at the Church of the Risen Lord, UP Diliman, QC. Reception followed at the Jade Valley Cantonese Cuisine, Timog Avenue, QC.



SY-SIA

Willy Sy, son of **Sy Seng Ka** and **Le Hua Mu Sy,** will marry **Annie Sia** on April 21 at the Shrine of Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life. Reception will follow at the Century Seafood Restaurant.

The bride will wear a cream duchess satin and heavy lace gown, with a princess-cut lace bodice and bell sleeves embellished with caviar beads and flowerets, designed and executed by **Eddie Baddeo.** The entourage's ensembles in orange motif are also by Baddeo.

MANUEL-LAGROSA

Albert Manuel recently married **Cecile Lagrosa** at the Basilica of San Sebastian in Manila. Albert is the son of **Arturo** and **Pag-asa Manuel,** while Cecile is the eldest daughter of **Jose** and **Elvira Lagrosa.** Cecile wore a **Renée Salud** creation, an off-white gown with a long veil. The wedding motif was sage green.

Wedding becomes a legal affair

From page E5

Now working at Unicef, she graduated from Ateneo in 1994 and completed her law studies in the same university in 1999, doing a thesis on the "GRP-NDF Peace Negotiations: A Legal Analysis of the Contentious Points." She took up her Masters in International Cooperation for Development at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

The only son of Leopoldo M. Moselina and Felina Perez of Zambales, the groom went to UP Diliman for both undergraduate and law studies. He is a junior associate at De La Rosa Tejero Nograles Law Office.

Reception followed at Father Blanco's Garden beside the church. Leo and Grace honored all the married couples present and gave an award to the longest-married pair, the groom's grandparents, who have been married for 60 years.

As it was also the death anniversary of Grace's father, Leo surprised her by showing pictures of her with her father as she was growing. The Velvet Moods Ensemble, who performed throughout the reception, sang "Butterfly Kisses."

Guests went home with a CD of the couple's favorite songs and a unique scented candle conceptualized by the bride. The candles, which were blessed during the Mass, have the scales of justice etched in them, with a cross in the middle instead of a sword. The names of Leo and Grace were written on the two scales.

The couple suggested that guests light the candle when they pray for peace and justice in the country and in the whole world.

In his beautiful homily, Father Nebres said: "Chains do not hold a marriage together/It is the threads, hundreds of tiny threads/That have sewn it together/Through the years."

The next day, the couple left for Malaysia and Singapore for the honeymoon.

WITH THEIR parents Mr. and Ms Leopoldo M. Moselina, and Ms Josefina C. Agcaoili and the bride's uncle, representing her late father, Aurelio S. Agcaoili

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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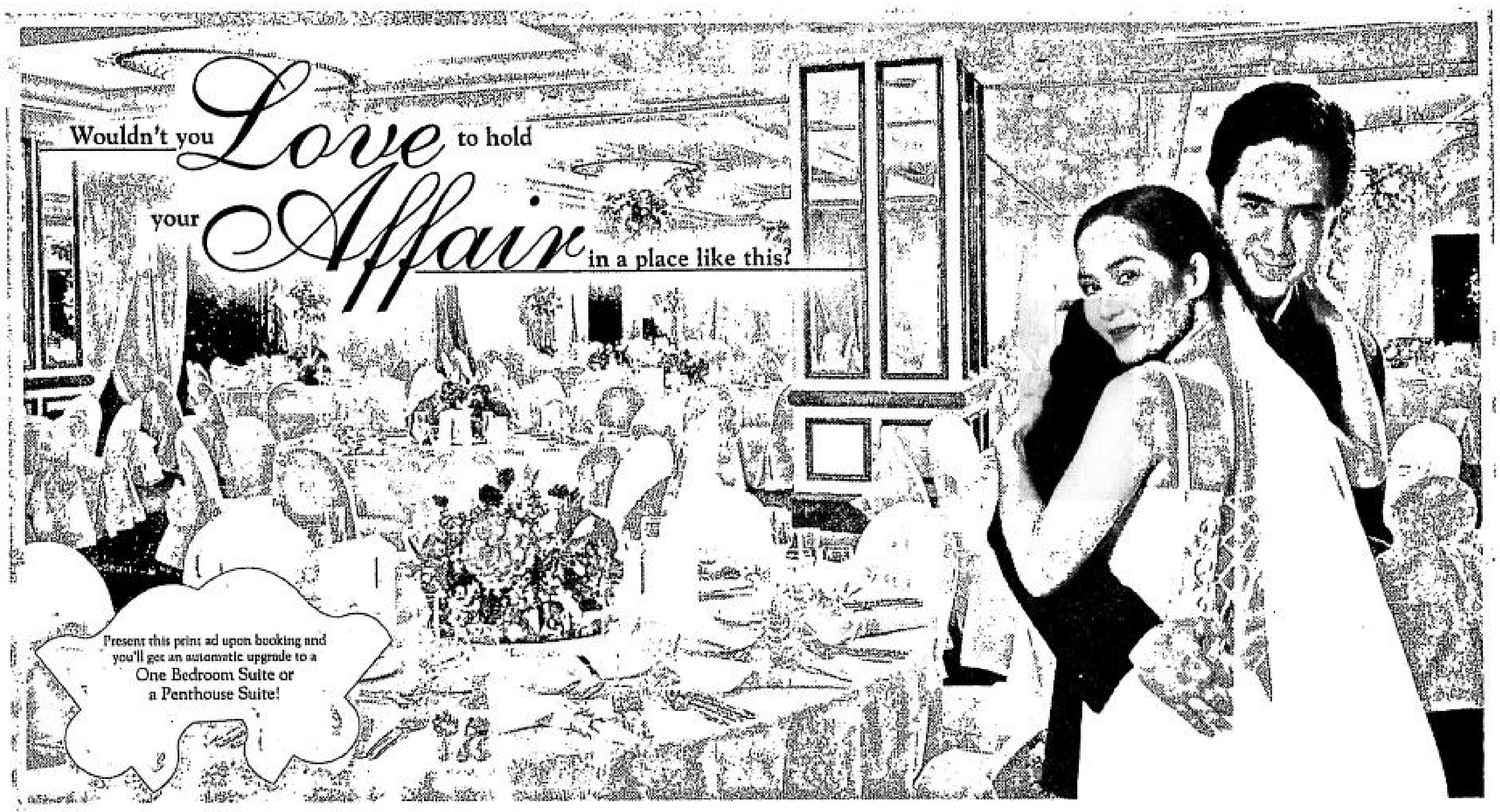

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Making a Difference 101

By Niña Terol
Contributor

IT'S never too late to make a difference in the lives of people and organizations around you. Giving and helping out aren't difficult, really, and you certainly don't need massive amounts of time, talent or treasure to make an impact in your community. All it takes is heart, hands and some creative thinking. To get you started, here's a list of small, almost effortless, things you can do in the next three months.

Get in the habit of giving:

- Make a resolution to read more about nonprofit organizations.

NEW WAYS OF GIVING

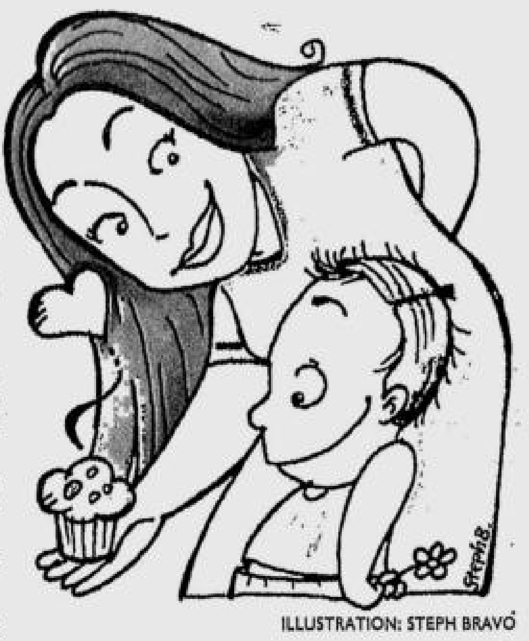
- Keep tab of causes or organizations that interest you.
- Know more about your chosen organization. Visit its website or call or visit its office.
- Find out what your chosen organization needs, and decide what you want to do or give, after reflection.
- Challenge yourself to save money for your organization and set a date when you will give it.
- Commit to support your organization regularly (even for just a year).
- Donate to a charity or organization to honor the death (or death anniversary) of a loved one.
- On your birthday, treat some kids (from an orphanage or shelter) to a museum visit.
- Make an effort to learn something about unusual causes (e.g., indigenous peoples' rights, AIDS, human rights, etc.).
- Get family and friends into your giving habit.

Be nice:

- Smile more and remember people's names.
- Write to friends and loved ones and encourage them to support an organization of their choice.
- Take time to listen to the stories of your elderly relatives and friends. They need people to help them remember.
- Give a street child some food before s/he asks you for money.

> Give creatively and it shall be given back to you creatively

MAKING/ p.F2



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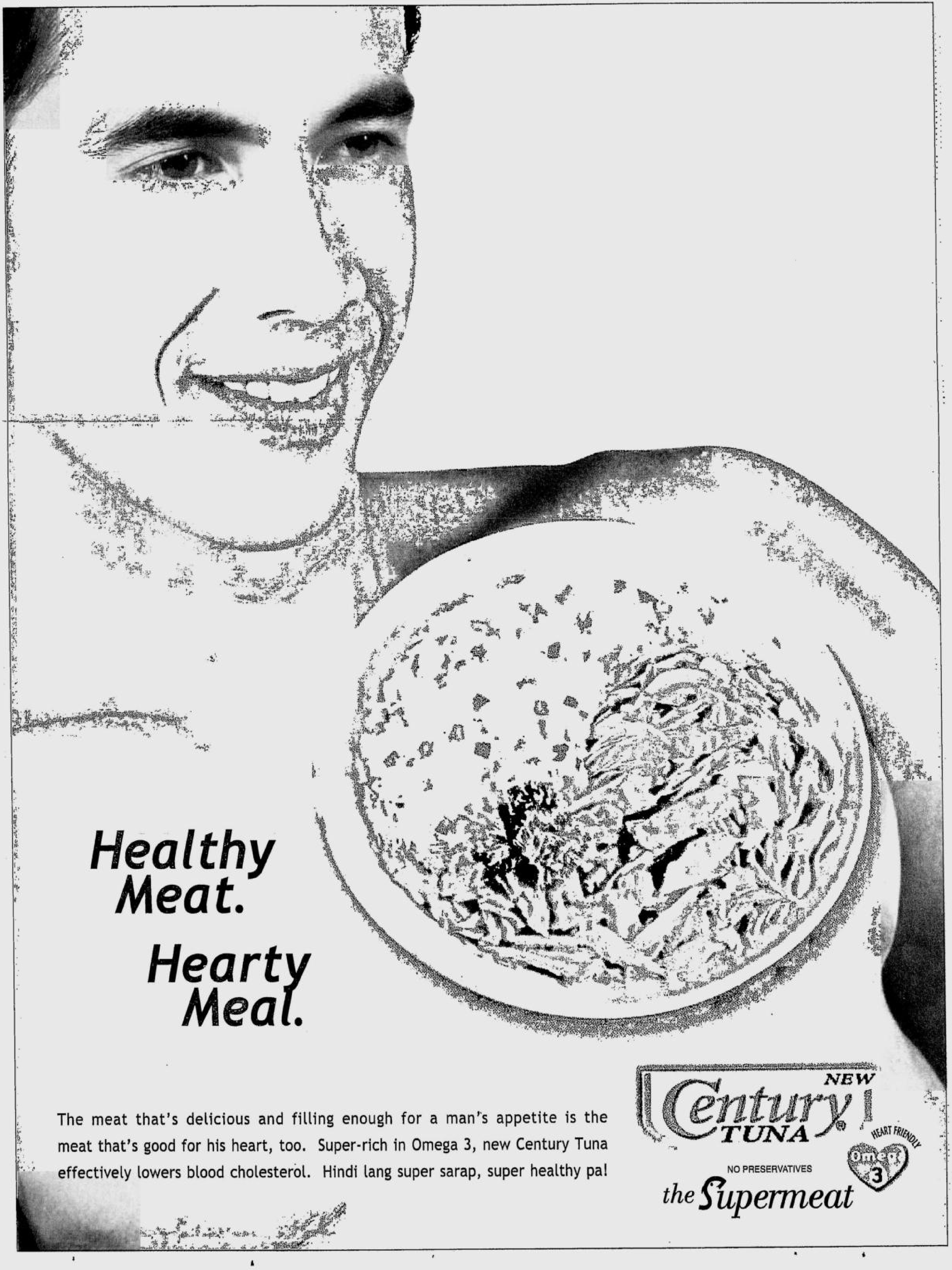

The meat that's delicious and filling enough for a man's appetite is the meat that's good for his heart, too. Super-rich in Omega 3, new Century Tuna effectively lowers blood cholesterol. Hindi lang super sarap, super healthy pa!

Making a Difference 101

From page F1

Get involved:

- Join a church choir.
- Attend homeowners association meetings, or be a board member.
- Be active in your alma mater's alumni association.
- Join a medical/dental mission.
- Volunteer to spend several hours a week in a shelter for the elderly.
- Launch a soup kitchen with friends in an elderly neighborhood or a nursing home. Contact government agencies (such as the DSWD) or nonprofit organizations for help.
- Be active in your child's PTA.
- Write letters to the editor about important issues in your community.
- Hold a PTA fund-raiser to benefit a local public school or children's organization.
- Have a bake/food sale and donate the proceeds to a local public school or children's organization.
- Offer to repaint the walls of an orphanage/shelter.
- While you're at it, repair broken furniture and equipment as well.
- Paint for a cause.
- Run for a cause.
- Bike for a cause.
- Race for a cause. (See how many things can be done for a cause?)
- Join a game show and donate your winnings to charity.

Save a life:

- Develop disaster-response and first-aid skills.
- Volunteer for a help-line for teenage and single mothers, drug dependents, troubled youth, etc.
- Promote AIDS awareness by assisting a local health center teach the community about AIDS.
- Volunteer to be a lifeguard in your village pool or beach club.

Put your money to good use:

- Put the plastic to good use. Charge a donation to your credit card.
- Set aside a small bank that you can fill with coins and small amounts of money every day of the year. Then donate your savings to your chosen charity or organization during the Christmas holidays.
- Have a family "saving competing scheme." The winner gets to choose the charity.
- Take out an insurance policy with your chosen organization as the beneficiary. (Yes, this can be done.)
- If you are filthy rich, figure in a charity or nonprofit organization in your estate plan.
- If you are filthy rich, put up your own grant-making foundation so that your philanthropic efforts become strategic and planned.
- Contribute to your alma mater's scholarship fund.
- Give gifts made by, or bought from, charities or nonprofit organizations.
- Ask your parish priest to do a second collection during Sunday masses to benefit organizations that need the money.

Do it differently:

- Start a tradition of hosting a party for the benefit of your chosen organization on your birthday.
- Better yet, extend that tradition to hosting a "charity party" for every member of your family or group of friends.
- Hold a joint birthday celebration and donate the savings money that you saved.
- Encourage friends and guests to donate to your chosen organization, instead of giving you gifts on your birthday.
- Hold a monthly car wash and give the proceeds to your chosen organization.

Don't just give cash:

- Donate tools and equipment to your chosen charity or nonprofit organization.
- Give out flowers to patients in the ward of the hospital or to elders in a home for the aged.
- If you own a restaurant, give out unsold food items to your local community workers (e.g., policemen, janitors, garbage collectors), or to charities and nonprofit organizations.
- Donate food and medicines to the nearest children's or elderly shelter.
- Donate useful textbooks, encyclopedias and other reference materials (not old and outdated ones, please!) to the library of the school nearest your home.

Have fun the good way:

- Resolve to patronize more restaurants and shops that donate to charity.
- Attend events sponsored by charities and nonprofit organizations for the benefit of their programs.
- Host parties and fund-raising events for the benefit of your chosen organization.
- Don't splurge on the prom—pick a char-

MAKING/ p.F5

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Keep cool in hot weather

STAY bright and sunny during the hot dry months ahead with these helpful tips from Robinsons Department Store (RDS).

- Pack a bottle of sunscreen, like Water Babies SPF 45 Sunblock, every time you hit the beach. Too much sun exposure can cause skin problems, including cancer.
- Get the right pair of sunglasses to make you look and stay cool. RDS branches offer wide selections of reasonably priced shades in various fun styles, colors and shapes.
- Bring a pair of rubber soles or slippers for comfortable long walks along the beach.
- Always have a towel on hand so you don't look silly walking around soaking wet after a swim.
- Be fashionable and practical by putting your beach accessories in a small carry-all bag or pouch. Visit the RDS' Ladies' Accessories section and choose from a myriad of styles, colors and shapes.

Festive summer at the mall

SUMMER blazes with festive moments at Festival Supermall in Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang.

Party with South Border, this month's featured artist in the "Festive Episodes" concert series. The band performs popular R&B, pop and dance hip on April 18, 8 p.m., at the 2/L Commerce Avenue.

Kids aged 5-12 years old can join Kids@Art Summer Workshops on basic drawing, painting, sculpture and crafts, ongoing until May 9, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 2-4 p m. Call 414-1954.

"Thanks to Circulan, my dysmenorrhea is now a thing of the past."

I am 19 years old and in my third year as a college student pursuing a BS degree in Psychology at UST. Since my Freshman year in college, dysmenorrhea has always been a problem of mine. At its most intense attack, my legs would feel numb so that walking became difficult, if not impossible for me . My classmates would, at times had to physically support me to the clinic. On several occasions , I had to be carried due to excruciating pain in my abdomen. Because of this, I dreaded the coming of my monthly period. Then my Mom advised me to take Circulan; and that was the best thing I did. All I can say is that Circulan has done wonders for me! Now I no longer have dysmenorrhea. Because of this, I have decided to continue taking Circulan. It has been 9 months since I first started taking it and now more than ever ,I have made it a point to include it in my daily routine.

Kristine Abayan
College Student
Mandaluyong City

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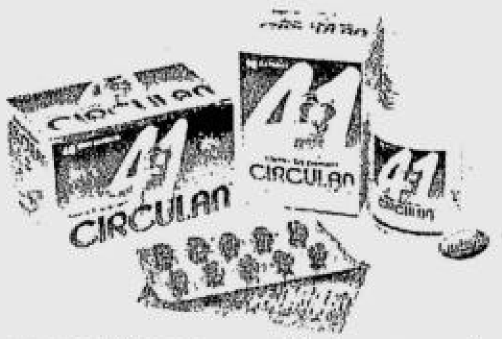

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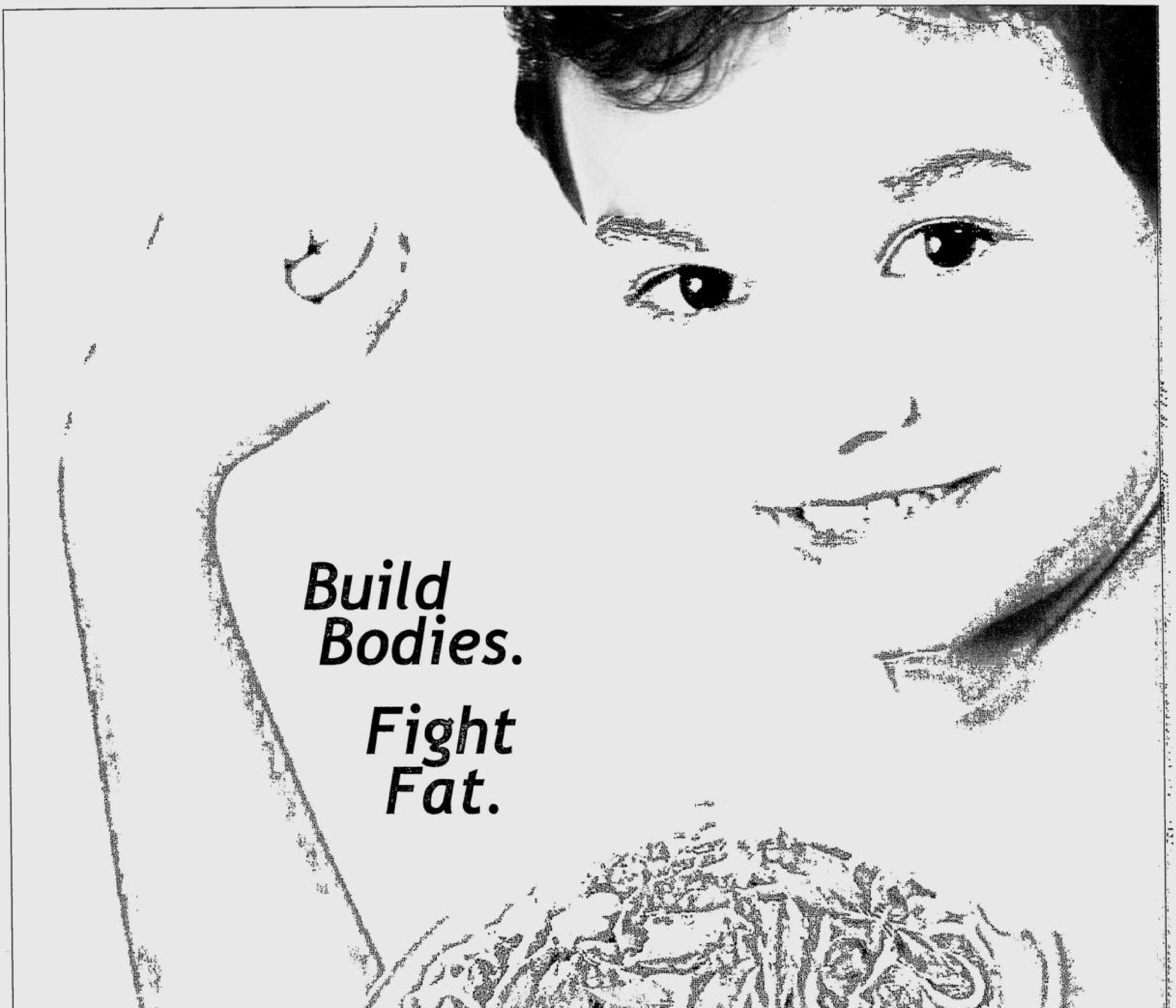

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Making a Difference 101

From page F2

ity and donate.

- Take your prom outside the hotel and spend it with the less fortunate.
- Host a "clean-up party" in your village/beach resort/anywhere else.

Teach a class:

- Get a group of friends together and host a livelihood workshop for jobless women in your community. This can involve teaching your audience how to make baked goodies, candles or décor items that they can sell later on.
- Conduct a workshop where you can teach village folk to turn their household trash into homemade treasures.
- Coach a youth sporting team.
- Get out-of-school youth in your community into sports.
- Teach children first aid.
- Teach children in your community about illegal drugs and how this problem can be solved.

Nurture nature:

- Segregate garbage and other waste products.
- Reuse and recycle.
- Support environment NGOs by touring through the islands' protected sanctuaries and wildlife reserves, like visiting the Philippine Eagle, Palawan, Siargao, etc.
- Dive with a cause. Get in touch with the World Wildlife Fund and find out how you can do your favorite activity while helping Philippine marine life.
- Get your fellow animal aficionados together and make a donation to your local pet shelter or to your favorite environmental organization.
- Make sure your car's engine is well-maintained so it doesn't pollute the air.
- Quit smoking and donate the savings to charity.

Cultivate culture:

- Take a tour of the museums in the country.
- Better yet, bring your family and friends along.
- Soak up on culture by watching theater productions about the lives of our national heroes.
- Patronize productions by local theater companies and culture organizations.

Be a better business person:

- Encourage employees to find out more about nonprofit organizations.
- Donate to your chosen organization during special occasions, such as Christmas or your company's founding anniversary.
- Sponsor projects of your chosen charity or nonprofit organizations.
- "Donate" some time by doing pro-bono work for a charity or nonprofit organization (e.g., design websites, write press releases, audit financial statements, provide free legal or medical services, etc.).
- For companies that hold Masses: donate a portion of the Mass collection to charity.
- Encourage employees to donate to their chosen organizations and match their donations.
- Set a "pay a fine if you're late" policy during office meetings and donate the proceeds to your company's chosen organization.
- Encourage employees to save on paper and other supplies, compare this to last year's expenses and give the difference—or a portion of this—to charity.
- Provide employees with volunteer opportunities.

Make giving child's play:

- Host a summer camp for children and donate the proceeds to your chosen charity or nonprofit organization.
- Host a party at the orphanage or children's shelter nearest you.
- Before the big day, ask the institution's staff what the children will need and encourage friends and guests to donate items from your list.
- For educators: set one day of the year where your students can save their lunch money and donate the proceeds to a class in the public school.
- Collect P1 from each student in a class of 40 for one school year and donate the resulting P8,000 to a charity of their choice.

Celebrate Christmas with a twist:

- Do your Christmas shopping at charity shops and bazaars.
- Buy Christmas cards made by charities or nonprofit organizations.
- Give out cash or in-kind donations to your chosen charity or organization in behalf of your Christmas list.
- Donate to your chosen charity or organization and encourage business associates and clients to do the same.
- Give the proceeds of your neighborhood Christmas caroling stint to a charity or nonprofit organization.
- Host a Christmas party for security guards, street sweepers, janitors and other community workers in your neighborhood.
- Encourage children in your household to buy a toy for a needy child in the community.
- Buy an extra bag of groceries with your 13th-month pay for a needy community or parish.

Comments, questions, or suggestions? Write to us at info@venture-asia.org. Venture for Fund Raising is a nonprofit organization that teaches the joy of giving and provides consulting, public information, research and training assistance on fund-raising to other nonprofit organizations in the Philippines and Asia.

Baby Food.
Brain Food.
NEW
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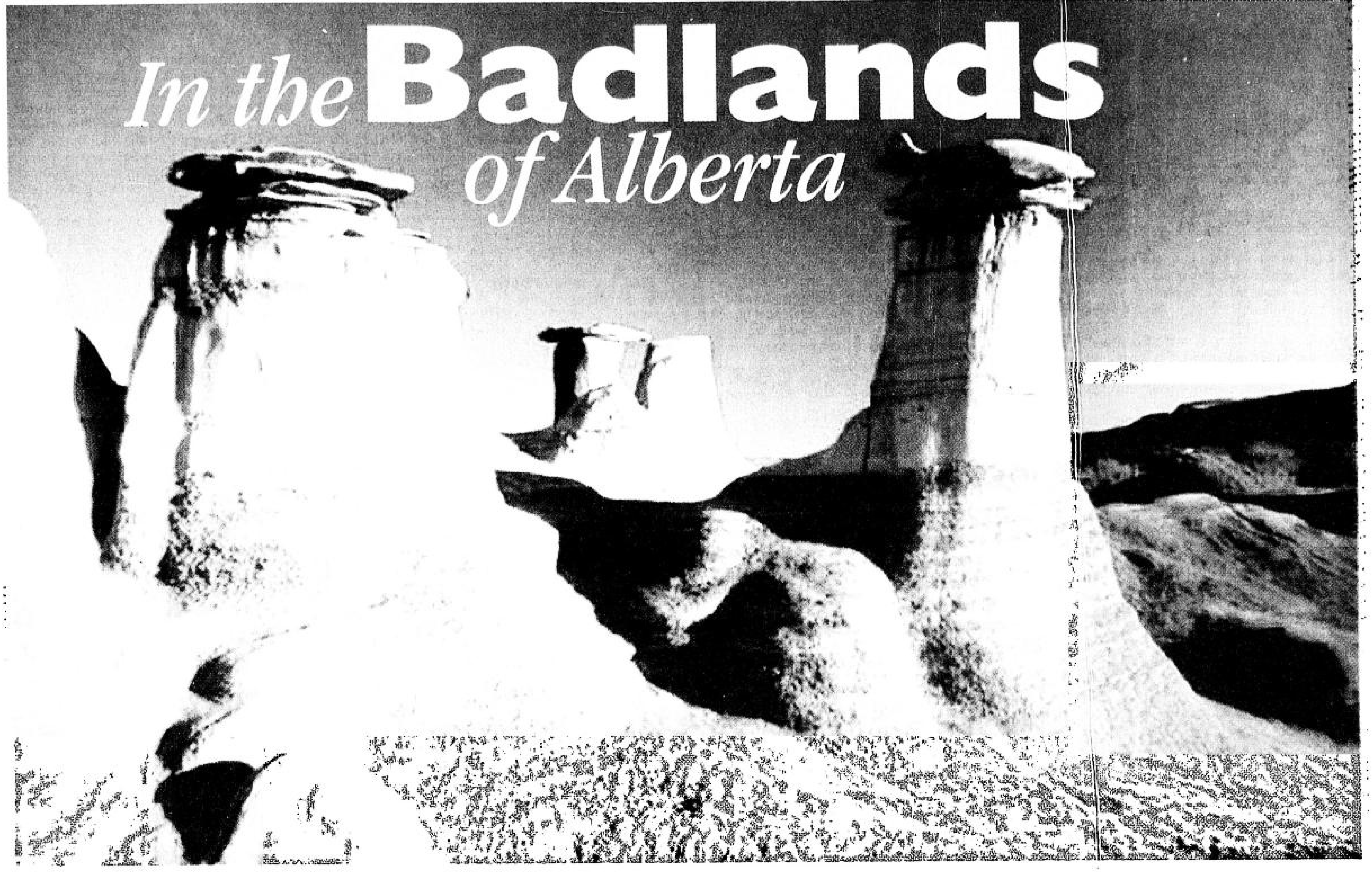
omega 3
NO PRESERVATIVES
the Supermeat

Don't just feed your baby, feed his mind, too. Give him new Century Tuna, the meat with Docosahexaenoic Acid (DHA) that's super-essential to your baby's brain development. Hindi lang super sarap, super healthy pa!

In the Badlands *of Alberta*



THE HOODOOS in the Badlands

AMONG the Hoodoo rock formations of the dry, arid region of south Alberta in Canada are hidden the fossilized bones of countless millions of dinosaurs just waiting to be discovered.

In fact, this whole region is of such interest and importance to paleontology that in 1985 the government of Alberta opened a museum dedicated to the excavation, research, restoration and display of the fossilized remains of those awe-inspiring monsters of so long ago.

The Royal Tyrrell Dinosaur Museum at Drumheller, which exhibits thousands of fossils and reconstructed dinosaurs, offers both beginners and experts an opportunity to participate in actual discovery by joining researchers in programs of dinosaur excavation at various sites near the museum.

Visitors work with museum staff excavating real dinosaur bones and learning technical skills such as the mapping and jacketing of fossils.

"Day Digs" is part of a multi-year research project made possible solely through the energy and enthusiasm of participants. You may join for a day or two, or even a week, in the various beds to find out what the scientists believe caused the extinction of these monsters. Do they support the asteroid theory, supernova radiation, or just periodic extinction?

Since 1993, two hadrosaur bone beds (Day Digs Bone Bed and Fox Coulee Quarry) have been excavated as part of the Day Digs Program. This summer, staff and visitors will be excavating at a new bone bed located in the Drumheller Valley.

Over 2,500 significant specimens have been excavated from the bone beds and quarries.

The bone bed is a massive graveyard of duck-billed dinosaur bones. The remains are all disarticulated, or disjointed, because of decay and, possibly, scavenging by predators.

More than 50 Albertosaurus teeth have also been found in the area. Some rival the size of a tooth from a small Tyrannosaurus rex. Yet tooth-marked bones are rare.

After a briefing at the museum, participants take a short bus ride and a 10-minute hike to the Day Dig Quarry to dig for the fossils. The price, including lunch and snacks, is C$90 adults and C$60 for 10-15-year-olds. The Day Digs season runs from June 30 to Sept. 2, 2002.

A 90-minute hike will introduce you to the fascinating geology and natural history of the badlands, with guides who discuss their work and show you how to prospect for fossils and identify dinosaur remains in the bone bed. The costs are C$12 for adults (18 and above), and C$8 for youths (7-17).

The Field Experience program offers weeklong excavations at a variety of locations and provides an opportunity to work alongside Royal Tyrrell Museum scientists and technicians in an integrated field research program.

Weekly sessions begin and end on Sunday; however, two-week stays are recommended to fully experience the fieldwork and other activities. The cost for one week is C$950 per person, including meals and accommodation. The season is from May 26 to Aug. 25, 2002.

Greyhound buses run daily from downtown Calgary to Drumheller.

For more information on the dig programs and the Royal Tyrrell Museum, go to http://www.tyrrellmuseum.com; e-mail info@tyrrellmuseum.com; or write to Box 7500, Drumheller, Alberta.

Philippines
Wealth of Wonders

THE PHILIPPINES' booth at ITB Berlin 2002

RP gains ground in new tourism markets

IN COMMON with many other long-haul destinations, the Philippines suffered from the events of Sept. 11, 2001. But recent reports suggest that a recovery can already be on the way, with the country experiencing growth in new markets.

The Philippines' presence at the International Tourism Exchange (ITB) last month in Berlin is an essential part of the strategy being pursued by its Department of Tourism, and provided an ideal opportunity to acquaint the trade industry and the public with the latest developments in the tourism sector.

The country saw a drop in the number of its foreign visitors, attributed mainly to the fallout from the events of late 2001.

The figures for 2001 show a decrease in tourists. There were 1.8 million arrivals, down from 2000 figures of 2 million. (The statistics for German visitors also followed this trend: the year 2001 saw a fall to 40,605 visitors from the total of 51,131 who were registered in 2000. It is not all bad news though, and while some of the traditional markets may have seen a fall in demand, there has been increasing interest from new markets such as Korea and Taiwan.)

Another new market for the Philippines is that of ecotourism. Its DOT has launched a new campaign called "WOW Philippines—Wealth Of Wonders," complete with a new website that has been specifically designed to attract the ecotourism market.

The website is in the form of a glossy brochure, with information for the potential traveler consisting of everything from the best destinations, how to get there, who to contact about more information, and the current weather in Manila.

This is envisioned to encourage visitors to the Philippines to travel to such areas as Tubbataha Reef Marine Park in Palawan, its beaches and its World Heritage Sites.

At ITB Berlin 2002 the Philippine booth consisted of 18 exhibitors, which included hotels, incoming tour operators, and resorts.

It was coordinated by the DOT in Frankfurt.

ITB Berlin, which is now in its 36th year, is again helping stimulate the travel business this year. It serves the needs of the world's tourism industry, with more than three-quarters of its exhibitors coming from outside Germany.

This year it drew a total of 9,875 exhibitors, with 67 additionally represented tourism companies and organizations from 181 countries and territories.

Although the figures represent a slight decrease from last year, in the context of recent world events they show that ITB Berlin maintains its strong position within the tourism market and is still the world's largest tourism trade fair.

Last month's displays, which occupied all the available space on the Berlin Exhibition Grounds—an area of 152,224 square meters—covered the entire industry: national and regional tourism organizations, tourism offices, resorts, tour operators and travel agents, carriers, hotels, publishers, insurers and companies specializing in communication and reservation systems.

ITB 2002 attracted more than 50,000 trade visitors from over 190 countries and territories, as well as 6,000 journalists from over 90 countries. Two days of the fair were once again reserved for travel trade professionals only.

Exhibitors can now build upon their success at ITB Berlin by using the new ITB Virtual Market Place to display their products 365 days a year on the Web. This is accessible from anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day. ***Messe Berlin***

DREAM COME TRUE

The new pier of Puerto Galera in Oriental Mindoro is now open to serve residents and visitors with two docking ramps for two roll-on, roll-off vessels, two fast craft and various docking facilities for *bancas*. The *anahaw*-roofed terminal (shown above), designed by Noel Saratan of L.V. Locsin & Partners, has a multifunctional ticket facility, restrooms and Coast Guard quarters. The family of Leandro and Cecilia Locsin donated the funds to build the pier and terminal, which, according to Puerto Galera Mayor Aristeo Atienza, are "a dream come true" for the town.

VISITORS in a shopping mall enjoy the added thrill of bouncing up and down this contraption with elastic straps.

Shenzhen gives HK . . .

From page F8

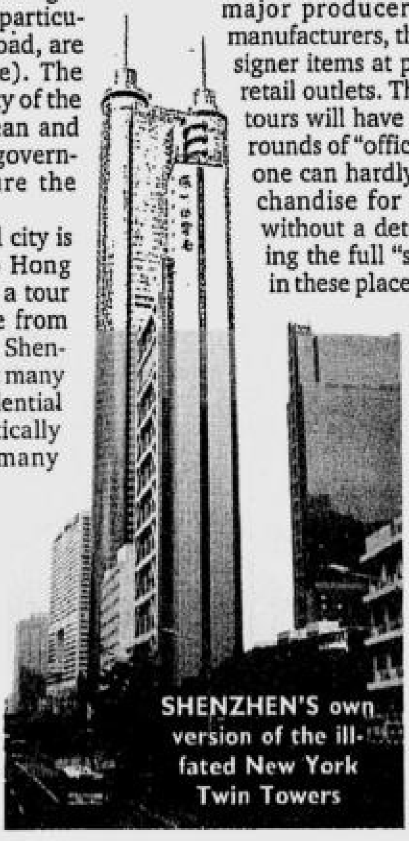
when it started.

Wide, open spaces

With its vast land area, the new metropolis is able to build at will (theme parks require more than handkerchief-sized spaces). Its streets—at least at the moment—are wide and often almost empty (bottlenecks only occur in places where construction projects are going on) to allow even the landing of gigantic aircraft (sidewalks, particularly on the main Shennan Road, are made of granite and marble). The city, winner of the Garden City of the World Award in 2000, is clean and green, with a special local government body tasked to ensure the plants' health.

No wonder the 20-year-old city is proving irresistible even to Hong Kong residents. According to a tour guide, some 240,000 people from the neighboring city come to Shenzhen on weekdays, twice that many on weekends. Although residential structures are still built vertically rather than horizontally, many Hong Kong residents are moving to Shenzhen where they get twice the space for their money. According to the Post, officials estimate that by the year 2030 at least 250,000 Hong Kong people will live or own a home in Shenzhen.

The commute, as a Post reporter found out, was not easy, taking at least four hours back and forth, but the low rents and living costs were drawing many Hong Kong dwellers tired of cramp spaces in and outside their homes.



SHENZHEN'S own version of the ill-fated New York Twin Towers

Bargain heaven

As for the shopping, many Filipinos are now using Hong Kong simply as a base for exploring Shenzhen. With the newly inaugurated daily PAL direct flights, they may just begin to skip Hong Kong altogether. Shenzhen is indeed a bargain paradise if you know where to go and look. Having become a major producer for many well-known manufacturers, the city offers authentic designer items at prices much lower than in retail outlets. Those traveling on package tours will have to put up with customary rounds of "official" shopping areas where one can hardly touch or stare at a merchandise for more than five seconds without a determined sales clerk reciting the full "special offer" spiel. Goods in these places are all "on sale," even offered on a buy-one, take-one basis. But, if they can withstand the temptation, they will be able to get those same items at very much lower prices elsewhere.

Great deals are actually to be found at the multilevel shopping complex at the railway terminal, Lowu. If you like dropping brand names, you can get the $200 "Rolex" watches or "designer" bags and shoes. Otherwise, there are the Shenzhen-made garments, shoes and other products that sustain Divisoria as the Philippines' bargain capital. If you have the patience, the bargaining skill and the sturdy legs, you can get practically everything at the shopping complex, including samples of Chinese traditional and indigenous arts and crafts, at irresistible prices. The vendors may not be as articulate as those in tourist establishments and they can also be rude, indifferent, even occasionally belligerent, but if you have learned your way around Hong Kong, you would surely not have any trouble with that. For all you know, they could be the same ones who tried your patience in Hong Kong.

At the moment, the daily PAL flights are only chartered. Among those that arrange trips to Shenzhen are Club Waterfront and Jin Lin International.

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$749 1st / 2nd person on best available interior staterooms	$1,599 1st / 2nd person on best available interior staterooms
$1,144 1st / 2nd person on best available outside staterooms	$1,999 1st / 2nd person on best available outside staterooms
$49 3rd / 4th guests	$899 3rd / 4th guests

11-Night Alaskan Coastal
Sailing Dates: 15 May 2002
Itinerary: San Diego • Catalina Island • San Francisco • Victoria • Sitka • Juneau • Ketchikan • Cruising Inside Passage • Vancouver
Onboard "Mercury"

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7-Night Hubbard Glacier
Sailing Dates: 9 June 2002
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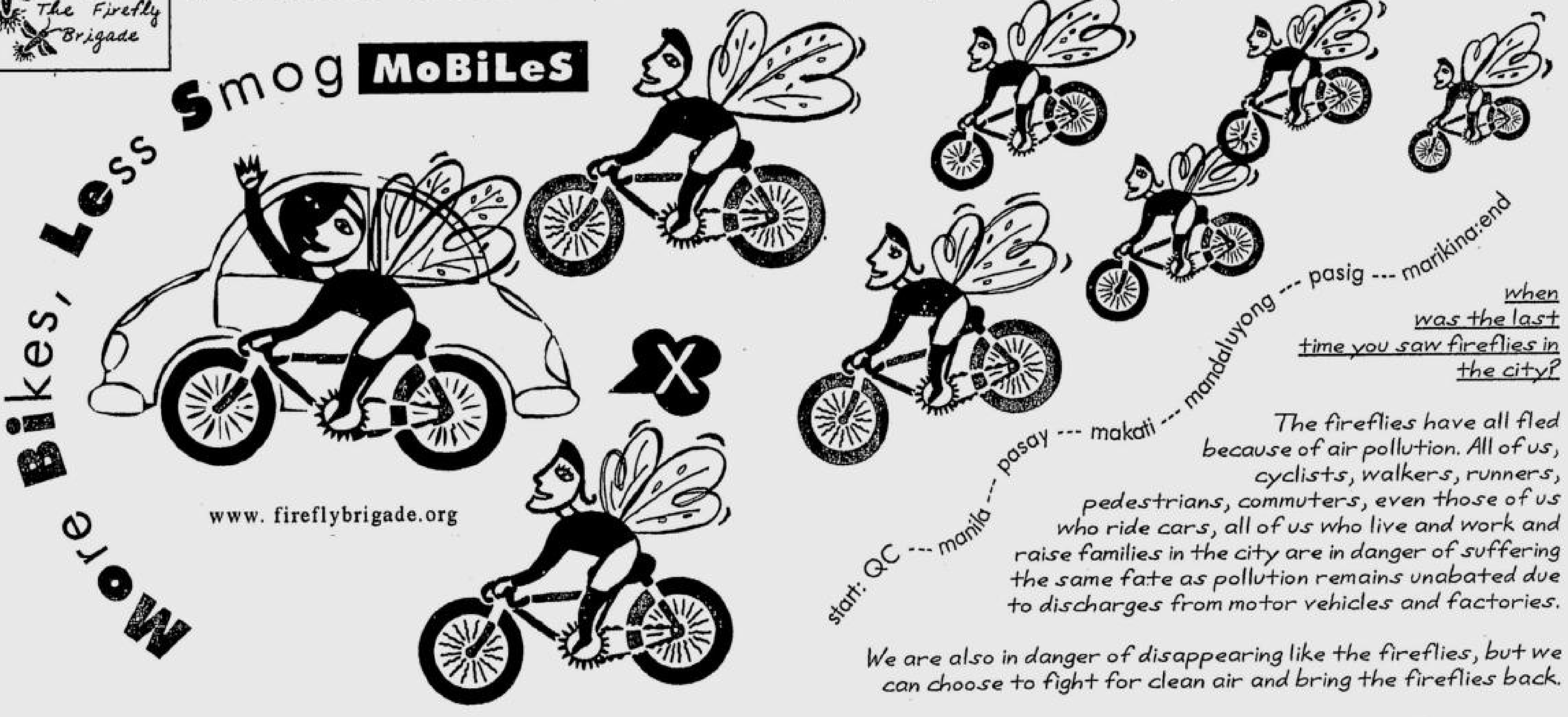
tour of the fireflies 2002 • 21 april • earthday eve

a critical mass bike ride for people-friendly streets

The Firefly Brigade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www. fireflybrigade.org
start: QC --- manila --- pasay --- makati --- mandaluyong --- pasig --- marikina:end

when was the last time you saw fireflies in the city?

The fireflies have all fled because of air pollution. All of us, cyclists, walkers, runners, pedestrians, commuters, even those of us who ride cars, all of us who live and work and raise families in the city are in danger of suffering the same fate as pollution remains unabated due to discharges from motor vehicles and factories.

We are also in danger of disappearing like the fireflies, but we can choose to fight for clean air and bring the fireflies back.

50 km through 7 cities of Metro Manila
starts at **UP Diliman** and ends at the **Marikina Riverbanks Center**
registration starts at **5.30 am** at the **UP Diliman Old Golf Course**
(near College of MassCom, across the oblation north side)
ride begins at **7.00 am** and will end about **12 nn**

special prizes to be given away for **most creative costumes** and **best decorated bikes!** so come in your earthday best

registration fee is **P 50**

where to register: (register by april 14 if you want to order tour jerseys or t-shirts. deadline for registration without jersey/t-shirt orders is April 17). **BIKESHOPS:** the bike room (cartimar) • joven (marikina: amang rodriguez cor. marcos hi-way) • roosevelt (roosevelt near cor. baler) • extreme (timog cor. panay) • bicycle works (cubao, beside Isetann) • bisikleta atbp (junction, san mateo - batasan rd.) • **CRAVINGS restaurants and cafes:** katipunan ave. • 3/L robinson's place ermita • 5/L shangri-la plaza mall • wilson st., greenhills • 3/L festival mall alabang • 3/L robinson's galleria • asturias st.,manila • registration forms available at **THE BODYSHOP stores:** podium, ortigas • alabang towncenter • glorietta 2 • SM south mall • SM megamall bldg B • SM north EDSA • SM manila • SM fairview • SM sucat • robinson's galleria • robinson's place ermita• robinson's pasig • robinson's novaliches • shangri-la mall • festival supermall • sta lucia mall • rockwell powerplant • ali mall • registration forms available at the ff **BRATPACK outlets:** SM manila • SM southmall • SM north EDSA • robinson's place ermita • robinson's galleria • registration forms also available at **Bantay Kalikasan, ABS CBN Foundation**

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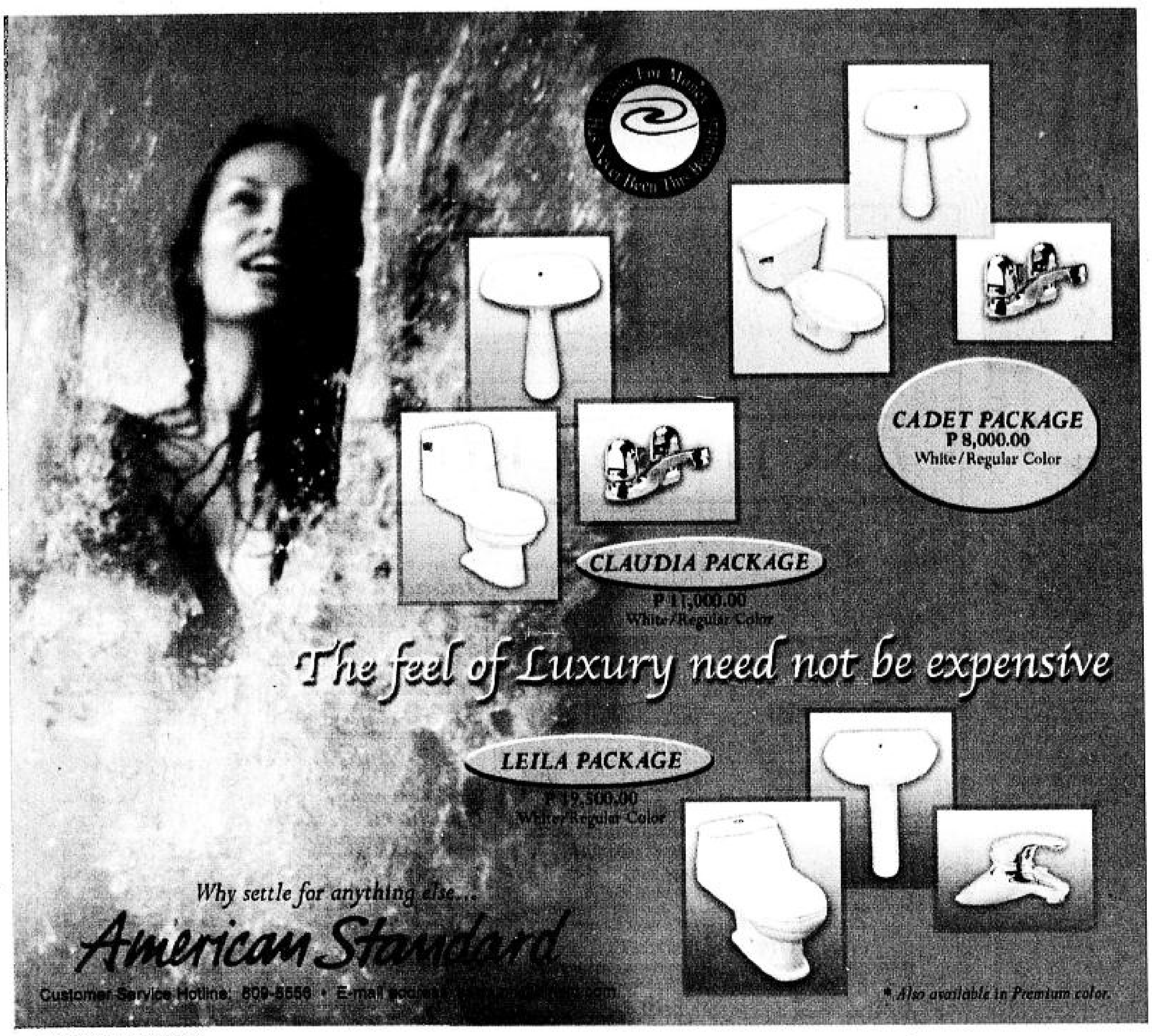
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AN ALMOST empty street on a Sunday is a scene no longer seen in Hong Kong.

Shenzhen gives HK a run for its money

Text and photos by Linda B. Bolido

Low rents and living costs are drawing many Hong Kong dwellers, tired of cramp spaces in and outside their homes, to Shenzhen

CHARITO Planas, boss at both the Quezon Memorial Circle and Nayong Pilipino, said the Philippines started it—the concept of theme parks. After Nayong Pilipino, a park where people could see the entire Philippine archipelago in miniature and experience its culture and tradition, several countries came up with mini versions of themselves.

Shenzhen City, a special economic zone in Guangdong Province and a monument to the late Deng Hsiao Ping's pragmatism, has proven to be an enthusiastic copycat. But in true Chinese fashion of doing things on a grander scale, the newly discovered haven of the most passionate and dedicated bargain hunters has come up with a version that would make epic maker Cecil B. de Mille proud. The city allows a visitor to see both China and the whole world—and their cultures and traditions—in just one day.

Window of the World has such global tourist spots as France's Arc de Triomphe, Italy's Leaning Tower of Pisa, Egypt's pyramids and the United Kingdom's London Tower Bridge almost within spitting distance. The place even sells "passports" stamped with "visas" of the countries represented in the park (the Philippines, unfortunately, not included). Splendid China Miniature Scenic Spot has brought together in one place the sprawling Forbidden City and the awesome Great Wall, among others.

One big theme park

Shenzhen, which seems to be engaged in a game of one-upmanship with neighbor Hong Kong that was reunited a few years back with China, has other theme parks and may be working on yet another one. Following the opening of Hong Kong's Disneyland, the economic zone was reported to be negotiating with the American Universal Studios for a rival theme park. The news had Hong Kong's Sunday Morning Post scoffing in a front-page cartoon: "I thought Shenzhen was already a theme park." The park may start to rise in five or six years if negotiations are successful.

Shenzhen, one of the Philippine Airlines' newest destinations (Tourism Undersecretary Rolando Reyes inaugurated recently PAL's daily flights to the city), was not so long ago just acres and acres of agricultural land. Now it is a concrete jungle engaged in an aggressive campaign to lure both tourists and business—often at the expense of Hong Kong.

A WOMAN in a modernized version of the traditional Chinese costume

The commercial and industrial hub is not only drawing people from all over the mainland but also from what is now known as a special administrative region of China. Hong Kong entrepreneurs and wage earners are flocking to Shenzhen for business, employment or simply to enjoy more spacious living arrangements. The Hong Kong invasion is evident in the way the local populace dresses. While the Chinese in many parts of the huge country still tend to be a little more restrained in their fashion choices, those who live and work in Shenzhen opt for bolder colors, styles and combinations.

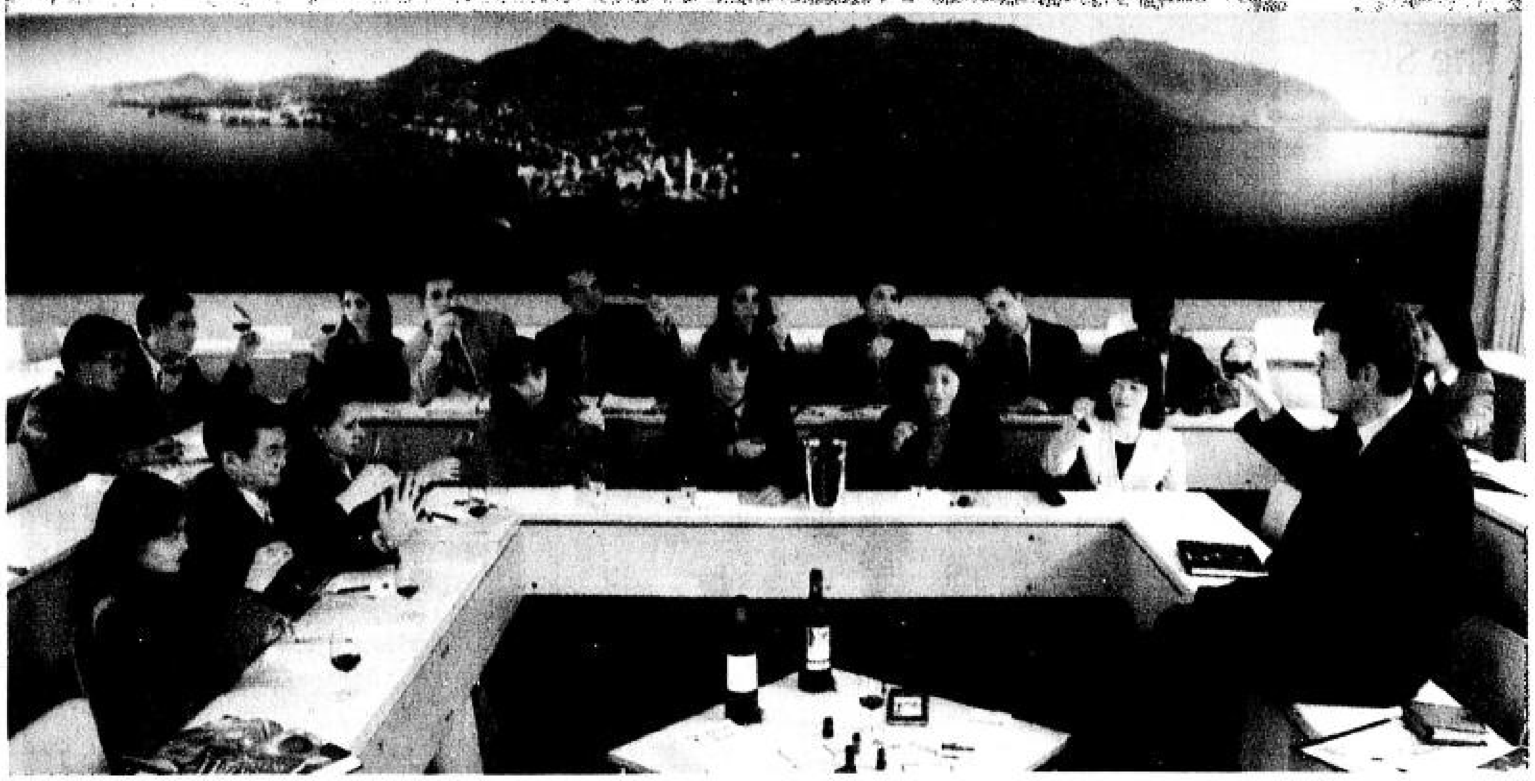
The former Crown Colony may have reason to sour-grape a little about the economic zone's transformation. Hong Kong probably realizes that the young city, named after a river they share, has many advantages the former British territory cannot match and did not even have

SHENZHEN/ p.F7

WIDE and often half-filled streets are a joy to Hong Kong residents who usually negotiate jammed thoroughfares 11, 12 Evening in Shenzhen. Aside from the tiny New York Twin Towers in the Window of the World, the city has built its own full-sized version of the ill-fated structure.

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday LIFESTYLE



FOOD and wine knowledge class at Glion

Service with a smile, Glion style

By Cathy Babao Guballa

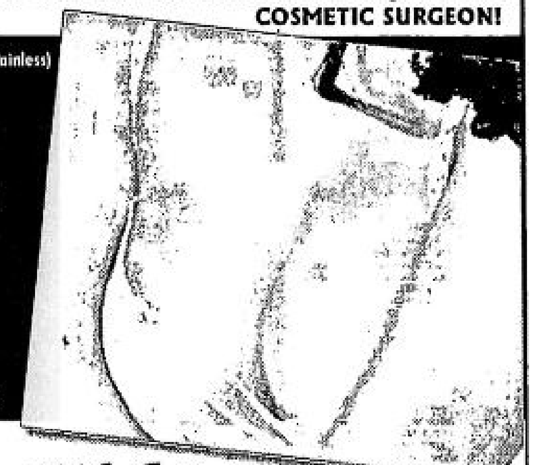
FOR THOSE looking for excellent programs in hotel and res-taurant services, Europe, particularly France and Switzer-land, has schools that equip young people from the world over who are keen on careers in the hospitality industry.

Glion Hotel School was established in 1962 at Montreaux in Switzerland and offers high-quality education in preparation for a career in the hotel and tourism industry by taking advantage of the long and famous Swiss experience in the hospitality sector. It has three main campuses—Leysin, in the canton of Vaud in the Alpes Vaudoises, Glion near Montreaux in the canton of Vaud, and Bulle, a charming town in the scenic Gruyere region.

In the Philippines, there are currently 15 Glion graduates who are highly successful in their chosen fields. Among them are Liza Chan-Parpan, executive vice president of Hotel Enterprises (owners of the Hyatt Hotel in Manila); Costas Vafapoulos, chief operations officer of the Ayala Hotels (Hotel Inter-Continental Manila and Oakwood); Farid Shoucair, general manager of Hyatt Hotel Manila; Gonzalo Moitinho de Almeda, owner of Le Coeur de France; and Felix Guggenheim of Guggenheim Consulting.

The young and pretty Chan-Parpan relates that the year and a half that she spent at Glion were very memorable. "Studies are not really that backbreaking as long as you apply yourself," she says. Doris Bohun, who represents Glion in Manila, says that "it's relatively easy to get accepted in Glion but more difficult to stay in." Chan-Parpan, though, seems to have enjoyed her stint thoroughly at Glion where she took up a course on hospitality administration, finishing as valedic-

SERVICE/ p.G2



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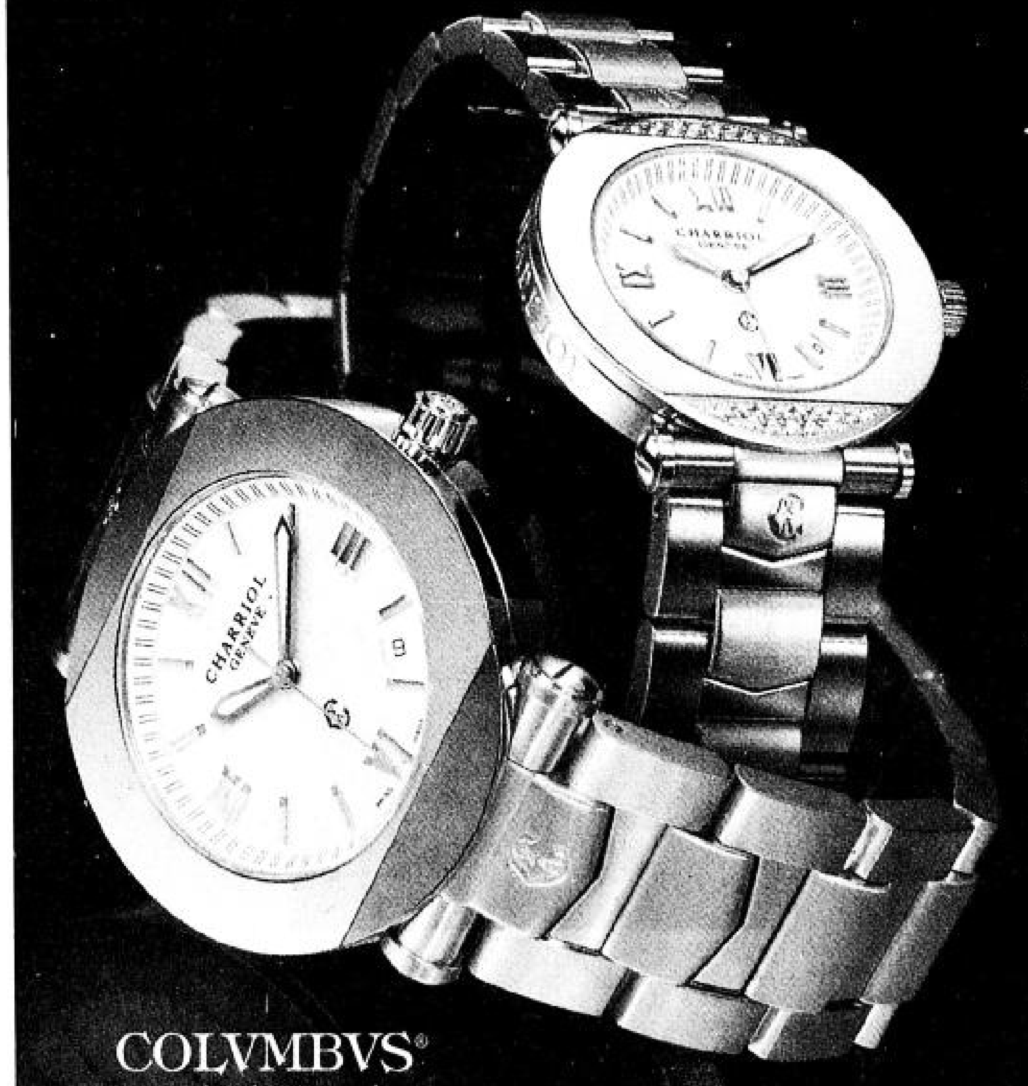

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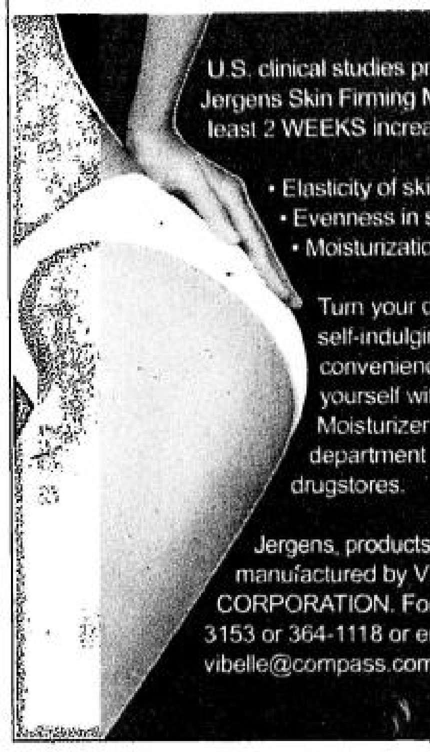

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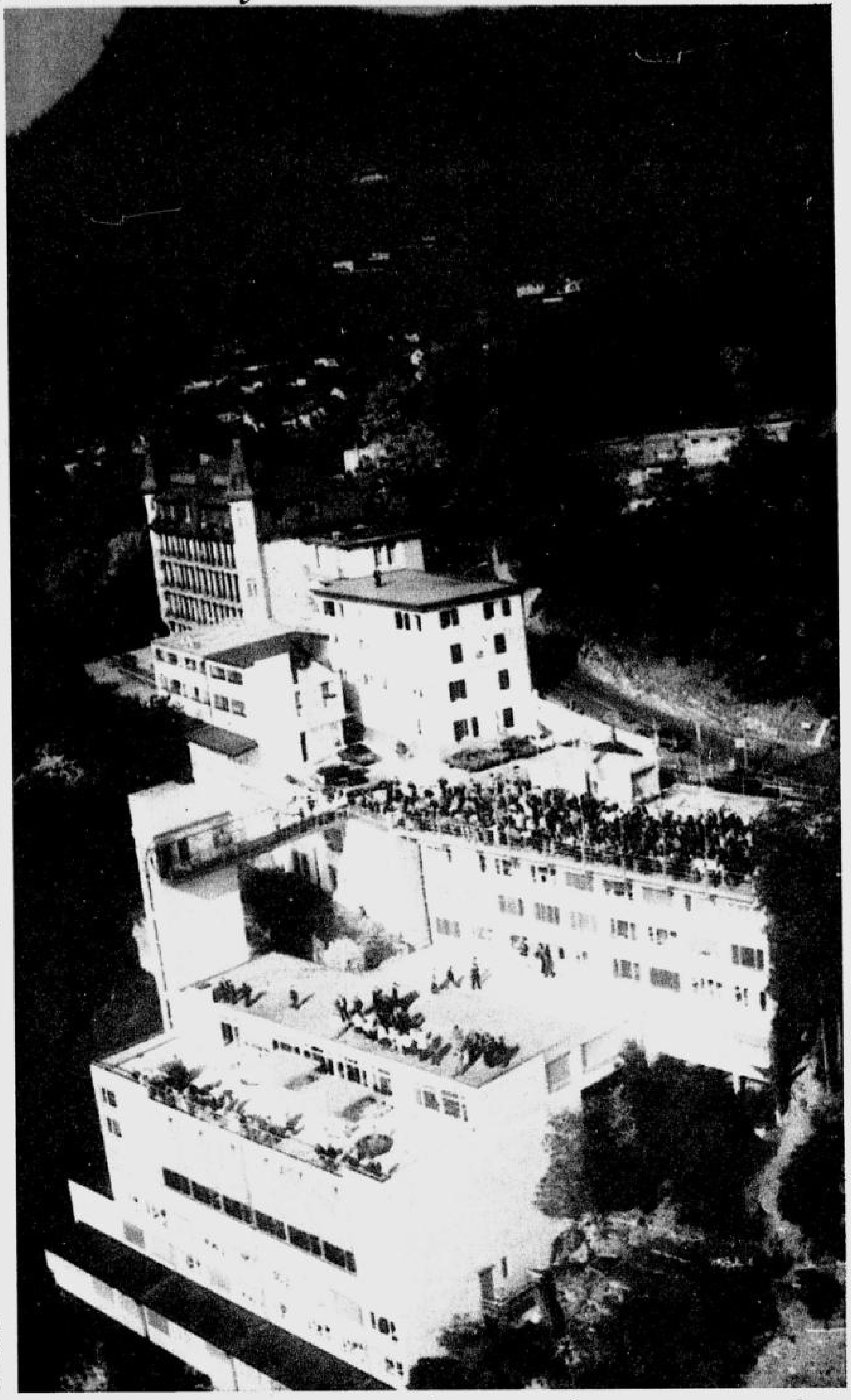
The Swiss school has produced top hoteliers and restaurateurs all over the world



SCHOOL with a view. Glion Hotel School at Glion-sur-Montreaux

Service with a smile, Glion style

From page G1

torian of her class.

Before Glion, Chan-Parpan had already tucked in a BS Management honors degree (cum laude) at the Ateneo de Manila University. She had heard of the school from the food and beverage manager at the Hyatt in Manila (which the Chan family owns) and was curious about pursuing further studies there. "Europe was totally new and it would be my first time to live in Switzerland, and the immaculateness of the whole place was pretty awesome," she recalls. Chan-Parpan also had a working knowledge of the French language and she encourages those who wish to go to Glion for further studies to equip themselves in the language accordingly.

Top-rate

"Glion was designed to be a top-rate hotel school," Bohun says. "Its kitchens were designed to teach and hold students. It has custom-designed case rooms, classroom kitchen and classroom reception," she adds.

The infrastructure at Glion includes a recreation and TV room, sports and fitness rooms, an Internet café, self-service restaurant, computer rooms and study rooms. It also provides 24-hour supervision of the well-appointed students living quarters. The school is accredited with the Association Suisse Ecoles Hoteliere (Association of Swiss Hotel Schools or Aseh). Aseh is the only quality board accrediting hotel schools in Switzerland. "There are other schools that highlight their affiliation with the 100-year-old Swiss Hotel Association (SHA) more than the school itself," Bohun adds. "Though the SHA has been around for a long time, membership standards are not as strict as that of Aseh."

Chan-Parpan says that a normal day at Glion begins at 7:45 a.m. or even as early as 7 a.m. if you are doing service or are assigned to kitchen duty. "The students serve each other during meals so you are constantly exposed to one another and to one another's performance," she says.

Intricacies such as how to set and fold a tablecloth properly, choosing the right wines and knowing which regions they come from, the right flatware, stemware are some of the things that one must know by heart. Some of the other professional development courses are practical learning (service and kitchen), menu planning, food and wine knowledge, principles of food hygiene, managerial aspects of control/purchasing, menu design, banquet organization, hotel operations, marketing and costing. Accounting, financial management and human resources are also included in the entrepreneurial skills as are English, information technology, foreign language, architecture and natural science.

LIZA Chan-Parpan

DORIS Bohun

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

"The academics are the easy part. When you do your practicum, that's when the 'fun' part begins," Chan-Parpan says. On her feet for almost 12 hours a day, Chan-Parpan was busy doing audit and inventory at the Grand Hyatt Hong Kong for three months until she was spotted by Peter Jentes, a friend of her father's who was the Grand Hyatt GM at that time, who placed her on rotation in the different key areas of the hotel.

Winner

After six months of practicum work, it was back to Glion for another semester. This time, Chan-Parpan found herself in the thick of preparations for an inter-school competition on wines among the best schools in Switzerland. "I was not able to study that hard and really wanted to back out as I was so tired from my practicum and felt that I would not be able to do my best," she relates. However, her professor encouraged her and so she found herself competing in Zurich a few months after her return. The result: she bested all the students and won first place in that competition that even landed her a place in the Swiss newspapers.

Chan-Parpan was the first woman, the first Asian and, naturally, the first Filipina to win that competition. "The Swiss know how to provide a balance—the wine thing was part of our extracurricular, but it really taught me to love and appreciate wine," she says of the experience.

Studies at Glion, of course, cost a premium, but Bohun and Chan-Parpan say it's worth the investment. The cost per semester, inclusive of board, is quite hefty, enough to buy a brand-new car, and a student will have to complete three semesters on campus plus two for practicum in order to get the degree. There are, however, shorter courses that involve only a semester or two on campus.

Bohun justifies the premium tuition by the school's roster of distinguished alumni. "Some 90 percent of Glion graduates leave school with a job in industries such as hospitality and food services, tourism, sports and even in nonrelated fields such as education and health. Our graduates occupy many of the most senior positions in the hotel and tourism industry internationally."

For more information on Glion, call Doris Bohun at 632-1692 or e-mail mrs_bohun@pacific.net.ph

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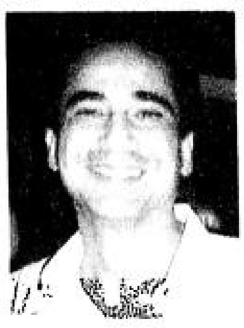
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Bar marks 5 years of chilling out

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Raul Teehankee

LOUIE Ysmael has that "bacchus" touch when it comes to the establishment of entertainment places. His Venezia bar turned 5 years old last weekend, the latest chapter of his success story as bar entrepreneur for the past three decades. Remember Stargazer, Louie Y's and Ysis?

Manila's eclectic crowd spilled out into the streets of Glorietta as they celebrated five years of "clubbing" and "chilling out."

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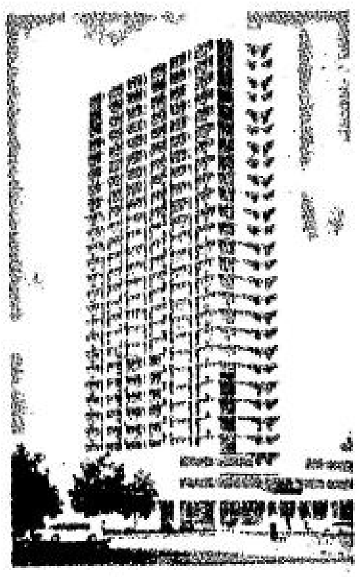

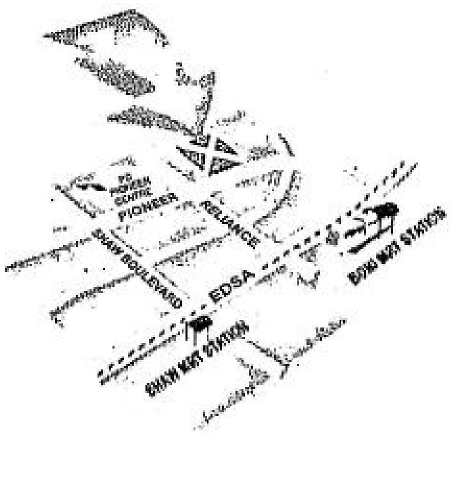
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Desirable Qualifications: Oral and written communication skills in French; Oral and written communication skills in other local dialects; Working knowledge of various computer applications e.g. Windows 95, Internet/Intranet.

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Conditions of Employment: The successful candidate must pass an enhanced reliability and security checks, plus a medical exam and must accept the responsibilities required in the job.

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Desirable Qualifications: Oral and written communication skills in both English and French; oral and written communication skills in other local dialects; working knowledge of various computer applications e.g. Windows 95, Internet/Intranet

Rated Elements: Knowledge of Canada; administrative and analytical and skills; adaptability to procedural and technological changes; personal suitability (professional integrity, tact, dependability, judgement, initiative and capacity to establish and maintain effective professional relationship with clients, colleagues and supervisors)

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Mandaluyong City

Urgent

A member of one of the biggest financial conglomerates in the country is in need of One (1)

MARKETING OFFICER

We assure you of a generous package and career growth.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Single
- Male or Female
- Between 21 to 25 yrs. old
- College graduate from reputable school
- Preferably Marketing graduate
- With selling experience
- With Chinese communication skills (Fookien or Mandarin)
- Willing to travel
- Willing to undergo extensive training

Interested parties may send their comprehensive resume with 2 x 2 picture at:

c/o The Manager, Personnel
Department P.O. Box 1893,
MCPO 1258, Makati City

dmo@philcharter.com.ph
(no attachment please)

One of the leading construction companies in the country is in urgent need of the following:

CIVIL ENGINEERS

- ➢ Licensed CE and computer literate.
- ➢ At least 5 years work experience in horizontal or vertical construction.

MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

- ➢ Licensed ME or EE and computer literate.
- ➢ At least 3 years work experience in electro-mechanical works and quality control.

OFFICE/COST ENGINEERS

- ➢ Licensed CE and computer literate.
- ➢ At least 3 years work experience in materials control, costing and estimating and bill of quantities.

SAFETY/QUALITY CONTROL ENGINEERS

- ➢ Licensed CE or ME and computer literate.
- ➢ At least 3 years work experience as Safety or QC Engineer in the constuction industry.

PLANNING & SCHEDULING ENGINEERS

- ➢ Licensed CE and computer literate.
- ➢ At least 5 years work experience as Planning and Scheduling Engineer in horizontal or vertical construction.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

- ➢ Graduate of 4-year course, computer literate and good in oral and written communication.
- ➢ At least 3 years work experience in the construction or manufacturing industry.

ACCOUNTANTS/BOOKKEEPERS

- ➢ Preferably CPA and must be computer literate.
- ➢ At least 3 years work experience in Accounting works.

WAREHOUSEMEN

- ➢ Graduate of a 4-year course and computer literate.
- ➢ At least 3 years work experience in the construction or manufacturing industry.

Interested parties are requested to immediately send their comprehensive resumé, with latest 2x2 picture and photocopy of transcript of records to:

THE DIVISION MANAGER
Personnel Administration
P.O. Box 195 AAVA Commercial Center
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City

Rustan's

IS IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF TOP CALIBER INDIVIDUALS

HUMAN RESOURCE SPECIALIST

- ➢ Female, at least 26 years old
- ➢ Graduate of Business Management or any Social Science course, preferably with inclinations in business
- ➢ Minimum of one (1) year experience in human resources focusing on career development and training
- ➢ With strong leadership qualities, high initiative and organizational skills
- ➢ Must have the potential to work in all areas of HR with minimum supervision
- ➢ Must be people-oriented, mature, analytical and highly motivated
- ➢ Must be able to adapt to a fast working environment
- ➢ Proficient in English communication and computer programs

RETAIL MANAGER

- ➢ Male, at least 25 years old
- ➢ Graduate of a (4) four-year degree course
- ➢ Preferably with work experience in boutique operations
- ➢ With strong leadership and excellent communication skills
- ➢ Highly presentable results-oriented, proficient in computers
- ➢ Willing to work on weekends and holidays

Please send your application documents with contact numbers indicated, transcript of records, and a recent 2x2 photo to:

RUSTAN'S HEAD OFFICE
Human Resources & Organization Development Division
G/F, El Mercasol Building, EDSA, Mandaluyong City

(Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview)

FEP PRINTING CORPORATION

Official printer of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Libre, Asian Wall Street Journal, Cebu Daily News, Bandera, Tumbok

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

QUALITY CONTROL MANAGER

Minimum Qualifications

- ➢ Experienced in web offset or commercial printing
- ➢ With statistical control background
- ➢ Knowledgeable in printing consumables
- ➢ Able to read and analyze densitometer testing
- ➢ With statistical control background
- ➢ Engineering or Statistical graduate
- ➢ With managerial experience

Immediate Tasks

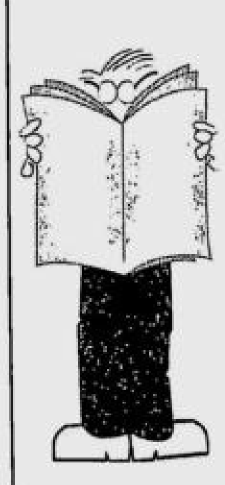
- ☑ Set up Quality Control Department
- ☑ Set up procedures and guidelines for implementation
- ☑ Establish a management review process
- ☑ Establish training needs
- ☑ Select personnel to work in the department

Send resumé with recent 2x2 picture to:

HRD (Code: QC)
FEP Printing Corporation
Louie R. Prieto Press Building
Mascardo Street near corner Pasong Tamo
Makati City

Or email to: **znavarro@fep.ph**

Where you find the best.



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOBMarket ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

GLOBAL TRAVEL COMPANY OFFERS CHALLENGING CAREER IN TRAVEL INDUSTRY

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- ☑ Female, single, not more than 25 years old
- ☑ Experience in travel business necessary
- ☑ Can work independently and under pressure
- ☑ Aggressive, with pleasing personality
- ☑ Highly interactive, can communicate effectively with clients and travel contacts

EXCELLENT BENEFITS

Exposure to global company operation • Industry standard compensation • Quarterly profit-sharing • Rice subsidy • Hospitalization plan • Travel benefits • Training opportunities

Send resumé and passport-size photo to:

P.O. Box 1781
Makati City

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

CIRCULATION FIELDMAN

- Graduate of any Business Course
- Knowledge of ins and outs of Metro Manila

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue
(formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets,
Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

PEAC needs:

2 FINANCE ASSISTANTS

- ⇨ Good communication skills
- ⇨ Proficient in Microsoft Excel & Word
- ⇨ Accounting major, Preferably CPA
- ⇨ Experience is an advantage
- ⇨ Male or Female, not more than 27 years old, preferably single

Please hand-carry your resumé with recent 2x2 picture and school transcript of records on April 19, 2002 at **PACIFIC EAST ASIA CARGO AIRLINES, INC.** at 2nd floor International Cargo Terminal Bldg., NAIA Complex Pasay City.

BODY & SOUL
&
Nature's Gift from Australia

THE LEADER IN COSMETICS & BEAUTY INDUSTRY WITH 85 RETAIL OUTLETS NATIONWIDE IS IN URGENT NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

A) HRD MANAGER
B) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- ⇒ Female, minimum 3 years work experience in a similar position, computer literate
- ⇒ Self-motivating, long term vision

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY & COMPENSATION PACKAGE AWAITS SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

Please apply in person with your detailed resume and credentials on April 9,10,11 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm **at #78 15th Avenue, Murphy, Cubao, Quezon City**
E-mail : bodynsoul@skyinet.net

Rustan's

urgently needs...

TRAVEL COORDINATOR

- ☑ Female, 26-30 years old, mature
- ☑ Graduate of any 4-year course
- ☑ Good background in handling travel matters
- ☑ Good communication skills
- ☑ Intelligent
- ☑ Good interpersonal skills

AUDIT ANALYSTS

- ☑ Female, between 21-27 years old
- ☑ BS Industrial Engineering or Accounting graduate
- ☑ Preferably CPA, and/or with related job experience in external/internal audit, accounting, methods systems analysis and design
- ☑ Computer literate
- ☑ Reliable, hardworking, trustworthy, with good moral character

FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

- ☑ Between 21-35 years old
- ☑ Accounting graduate, computer literate
- ☑ Proficient in oral and written communication with analytical ability
- ☑ Preferably with related work experience
- ☑ Willing to work beyond regular office hours

SECRETARIES

- ☑ Female, at least 25 years old
- ☑ Graduate of any 4-year business course
- ☑ Knowledge in secretarial services
- ☑ Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- ☑ Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- ☑ Must be computer literate

LEGAL ASSISTANT

- ☑ Male, not over 35 years old
- ☑ Graduate of any four-year course
- ☑ Preferably with experience in law/fiscal's office
- ☑ Computer literate
- ☑ With driver's license

ARTISTS

- ☑ Male, between 21-30 years old
- ☑ Fine Arts or Interior-Design graduate
- ☑ With creative skills in drawing, lettering, silk screening, flower arranging, etc.
- ☑ Willing to work beyond working hours

MAKE-UP ARTISTS

- ☑ Male, female, gay, between 21-30 years old
- ☑ Graduate of any 4-year Business course
- ☑ At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- ☑ Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- ☑ Good in oral communication skills

BEAUTY THERAPISTS

- ☑ Female, between 21-28 years old
- ☑ 5'2" and above in height
- ☑ With pleasing personality and clear complexion
- ☑ Graduate of Nursing or Physical Therapy
- ☑ With good communication skills
- ☑ Preferably near Alabang area

BEAUTY CONSULTANTS

- ☑ Female, between 21-28 years old
- ☑ Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- ☑ At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- ☑ Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- ☑ Good in oral communication skills

SALES ASSOCIATES

- ☑ Female, between 21-28 years old
- ☑ Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- ☑ At least 5'2" in height with clear complexion
- ☑ Must have initiative, ability and sustained interest in selling
- ☑ Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- ☑ Good in oral communication skills

TELEPHONE OPERATOR

- ☑ Female, between 21-28 years old
- ☑ Graduate of General Radio Communication Operator or any related course
- ☑ With good communication skills (pleasant speaking voice)
- ☑ Preferably with experience in switchboard and operation
- ☑ Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality

TAILOR

- ☑ Male, not over 30 years old
- ☑ At least 1-2 years experience
- ☑ Must have good communication skills and customer-oriented
- ☑ Must have initiative, ability and sustained interests in selling
- ☑ Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality

PLUMBER

- ☑ Male, between 21-35 years old
- ☑ At least High School graduate
- ☑ With at least three (3) years related work experience
- ☑ Preferably near Alabang area

Interested applicants may apply personally to:

RUSTAN'S HEAD OFFICE
G/F Rustan Building, EDSA, Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. 727-0226 loc. 2210/2208 look for Lanie/Anna/Beth

Applicants may be accommodated from Monday to Thursday between 8-12 nn

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Unibancard Corporation

METROBANK

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Unibancard Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Metrobank Group, currently the largest financial conglomerate in the country.

As part of its goal to remain highly competitive in the market and improve its service to its cardholders, the company is looking for high-caliber candidates who could fill in the following positions:

CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICER

- With at least 2 years experience in customer service

COLLECTION OFFICER

- With at least 2 years experience in collection

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

- Minimum three (3) years experience in any of the following areas:
    - product development
    - corporate communication
    - advertising and promotion
- Excellent presentation skills

METHODS OFFICER

- Preferably a graduate of Industrial Engineering
- At least 3 years experience in systems and methods preferably in a financial institution

CREDIT OFFICER

- At least 2 years consumer credit experience

ALL CANDIDATES ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

- A graduate of a 4-year business related course
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Hardworking, goal oriented with a drive for "success" and "excellence"
- Willing to be involved in a constantly fast-paced work environment
- Strong leadership abilities
- Excellent analytical skills and sound judgment
- Self-motivated and able to work independently as well as in a team
- Computer literate

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé, recent 2x2 photo, and official transcript of records to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
UNIBANCARD CORPORATION
16th Floor, PS Bank Tower
Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Tel. No. 845-0101 local 4607 or 870-0906

Axis Global Technologies, Inc.

THE LEADER IN I.T. PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTION

ABIT
AMD
Arctic Silver
COOLER MASTER
CYBER DRIVE
ECS
ENERMAX
EPSON
FUJITSU
inno3D
innoDV
LIFEBOOK
PROVIEW
Thermaltake
VIA

Axis Global Technologies, Inc. is one of the leading distributors of IT products in the Philippines. We currently represent some of the biggest names in the computer industry. We are currently looking for talented, hard working, self-motivated and result-oriented individuals to join our team. If you feel that you have what it takes, please submit your **resume, transcript of records** and a **two by two picture** to our HR Department from 10am to 4pm Monday to Saturday or e-mail to hrd@axisglobal.com on or before April 27, 2002.

Product Specialists-Performance Products (code PDI040702-PS)

You will be assigned to handle products that are used for overclocking such as mainboards, power supplies and cooling systems. You would be responsible for maintaining existing and developing new markets for these products. You will coordinate directly with the Sales Manager on pricing, promotion, stock availability, sales training and product launchings. You must be a graduate of Marketing or any related course. Experience in marketing IT products a definite advantage. You must possess a highly pleasing personality and excellent communication skills. Excellent compensation package awaits you.

Product Specialists-Consumer Products (code PDI040702-PS)

You will be assigned to handle one or more consumer market products such as printers or digital storage media. You would be responsible for maintaining existing and developing new markets for these products. You will coordinate directly with the Sales Manager on pricing, promotion, stock availability, sales training and product launchings. You must be a graduate of Marketing or any related course. Experience in marketing IT products an advantage. You must possess a highly pleasing personality and excellent communication skills. Excellent compensation package awaits you.

Sales Assistants (code PDI040702-SA)

You must possess a degree in Marketing, Communications, Business Management or any related course from a reputable university. You must be highly organized and detail oriented. You must also be proficient in the use of Windows based applications particularly MS Office. You must not be more than 26 years old.

Logistics Officer (code PDI040702-LO)

Male. You shall handle scheduling of delivery vans and motorized messengers and handle transactions with couriers and forwarders. You must be knowledgeable in the routes within Metro Manila and nearby provinces. You must be proficient in using computers particularly MS Office. You must possess a degree in any four year course from a reputable university. Skill in driving and maintaining 2 wheel and 4 wheel vehicles an advantage. You should not be more than 28 years old.

Lobby Receptionists (code PDI040702-LR)

You will be tasked to assist customers at the reception area. You must possess a pleasing personality with excellent verbal communication skills in both English and Filipino. You must be a graduate of any four year course from a reputable university and not be more than 26 years old.

Delivery Drivers (code PDI040702-DD)

Male not over 28 years old, hardworking, honest and reliable. You must have at least 2 years experience in the same field. Minimum of two years college is a must. You must be knowledgable in all the routes within Metro Manila as well as the surrounding cities and municipalities.

Submit your requirements to

The Human Resources Department - Axis Global Corporate Center
20 North Road cor. 3rd Ave., Cubao, Quezon City, M.M. or come visit us at www.axisglobal.com

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A National Drug Manufacturer is in need of:

Manufacturing Operations Manager

Responsibilities:

- ⇨ Manage and lead a team of Pharmacists and production personnel to meet operation 's requirements
- ⇨ Establish plans and strategies to meet operations output requirement
- ⇨ Must be very familiar with DOH/BFAD regulations

Qualifications:

- ⇨ At least 10 years related experience including at least 5 years in a managerial position in the pharmaceutical sector
- ⇨ Bachelor's Degree or Professional Degree in Pharmacy, Chemistry or equivalent

Skills and Attributes Required:

- ⇨ Good communication skills, strong leadership qualities
- ⇨ Good interpersonal skills

Marketing Director

Responsibilities:

- ⇨ Formulate and implement marketing strategies to grow the quality of revenue, gain share in certain product areas while maintaining share in others
- ⇨ Identify market trends, competitive activities and business opportunities that will impact the businesses

Qualifications:

- ⇨ At least 10 years experience in sales or marketing including 5 years as a marketing manager in the pharmaceutical sector
- ⇨ Experience in setting broad marketing strategies and plans
- ⇨ Bachelor degree, preferably in a business discipline

Skills and Attributes Required:

- ⇨ Highly motivated, capable of motivating others
- ⇨ Demonstrated people skills
- ⇨ Innovative, energetic, having a positive attribute

Qualified applicants may send their Resumé, Transcript of recocrds, 2x2 ID picture to:

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
P.O. Box 2839
Quezon City

Red Ribbon BakeShop

... offers CAREER OPPORTUNITIES to all SERVICE ORIENTED INDIVIDUALS for its CONTINUOUS EXPANSION PROGRAM

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

Makati / Manila / Parañaque / San Fernando, Pampanga

- ✓ Male/Female, between 22 to 28 years old
- ✓ Graduate of BS HRM or any business related courses
- ✓ Must have 3 months to 1 year hands-on experience in the same capacity in any food business set-up
- ✓ Personable and must have excellent oral and written communications and interpersonal skills
- ✓ Can effectively work under pressure with less supervision, well organized and cost efficient
- ✓ Customer-service oriented and with mature disposition
- ✓ Willing to undergo comprehensive training and work on shifts
- ✓ Must be computer literate
- ✓ Fresh graduates with good scholastic records are welcome to apply

STAFF ENGINEER

- ✓ Male, between 22 to 30 years old
- ✓ Must be a graduate of BSEE, preferably licensed
- ✓ Results-oriented and computer literate
- ✓ Must possess leadership skills and can work with minimum supervision
- ✓ Must have at least 6 months to 1 year relevant work experience in the same capacity in the food industry or manufacturing set up
- ✓ Must be willing to do field work and knows how to drive

These are URGENT REQUIREMENTS

Qualified applicants are requested to apply personally or send comprehensive resumé with current picture to:

Employee Care Services - Marketing Group
No. 1180 - 2F Doña Beatriz Building-, 13th Street
New Manila, Quezon City
(Walk-In schedules, every Mon-Fri, from 9-3pm)

TUTUBAN PROPERTIES, INC.

2/F Admin Office, Tutuban Centermall, C.M. Recto, Manila

We are a company engaged in leasing spaces for business proprietors or entrepreneurs who would like to optimize their sales potential. Currently, we are in need of competent people to fill in the following positions:

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

- ➢ 21-28 years old; graduate of Communication Arts or other related courses
- ➢ Should have extensive experience in writing and other marketing support activities
- ➢ Should possess excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- ➢ Willing to work long hours under minimum supervision

MARKETING SUPERVISOR

- ➢ 28-35 years old; business course graduate
- ➢ 3-5 years experience in retail sales marketing in a commercial center
- ➢ With financial background on the preparation and analysis of budget for the department
- ➢ Should have negotiation skills in dealing with the merchants and should be adept in rental revenue framework and projections

BUILDING ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT*

- ➢ 22-35 years old; must be a business course graduate
- ➢ Should have at least two years experience in property or building administration or management
- ➢ With above average communication skills, computer literate and is willing to work long hours even during holidays

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT*

- ➢ 20-25 years old; must be a business course graduate
- ➢ Should have at least two years experience in handling contracts
- ➢ Should be keen in details and numbers, computer literate and well-oriented in a customer service environment

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SUPERVISOR

- ➢ 25-32 years old; Licensed Mechanical Engineer
- ➢ With working knowledge in air conditioning systems, preventive maintenance, operation of mechanical machines and electrical wiring control
- ➢ Computer literate; analytic and pro-active

SECURITY OFFICER

- ➢ 30-43 years old; college graduate; computer literate and has basic knowledge in investigation
- ➢ Preferably a retired/reserve officer of the AFP or an Advance ROTC graduate
- ➢ 5 years supervisory experience in security

* For manpower pooling only

If you think you are the one we are looking for, you may email your resumé at Tutuban2001@yahoo.com or send it to the above address. You may also call us at 2511661 for more details. Compensation shall be justly commensurate to qualifications.

Danfoss is a world leader in manufacturing industrial control components such as Frequency Converters, Flowmeters, Valves, and Compressors. DANFOSS is a trend-setter within the field of Refrigeration and Air-conditioning. We are represented in more than 120 countries and has over 20,000 employees worldwide. For our Philippine subsidiary, we urgently need:

HVAC Energy Savings Engineers

Energy is very expensive! DANFOSS is an advocate of energy efficiency in air conditioning systems. We have been successful in providing energy savings to many of our key clients and we aim to meet the increasing demand for energy savings. We are therefore looking for people who will further promote engineered energy solutions. They must have thorough understanding of HVAC systems and able to analyze and recommend energy saving improvements to chief engineers, and property/facility managers.

Background and Experience:

- Mechanical Engineering graduate
- Efficient communicator with strong interpersonal & presentation skills and excellent command of English writing
- Knowledge of Variable Speed Drives is an advantage
- Preferably with hands-on experience in HVAC systems

Note: Fresh graduates with excellent academic credentials and positive attitudes are welcome to apply. DANFOSS will then provide comprehensive training.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumé and 2x2 ID picture, indicating the Reference code in their application, by post or fax on or before May 12, 2002:

DANFOSS INC.
Km 18 East Service Rd., South Super Highway,
Sucat, Parañaque City
Tel. No. 838-4591 Fax: 838-6626

A NEWLY ESTABLISHED COMPANY ENGAGED IN HIGH-END FASHION RETAILING IS IN URGENT NEED OF TOP CALIBER INDIVIDUALS TO FILL UP THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

SALES SUPERVISORS
SENIOR SALES CONSULTANTS

- Preferably female; at least 5'2" in height
- Between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year course
- Sales experience with a fashion retail outlet will be an advantage
- Must be proficient in both oral and written communications
- Must be very good in customer relations
- Must be willing to work on weekends and holidays
- Must be computer literate

SALES CONSULTANTS

- Preferably female; at least 5'2" in height
- Between 21-28 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year course
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Must be service-oriented
- Must be willing to work on weekends and holidays

FINANCE OFFICER

- Preferably female
- Between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of Accounting/CPA
- Must possess an analytical mind
- Must have an impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be very flexible and willing to do other jobs e.g. HR and administrative work
- Must be computer literate

ADMINISTRATION & HUMAN RESOURCES

- Female
- 30 years old and above
- College graduate with a degree in Human Resources Management preferred
- Masters degree or background in Law an advantage
- At least 5 years work experience in Personnel and Administration

FINANCE

- Female
- 30 years old and above
- CPA
- Masters degree an advantage
- At least 5 years work experience as Finance Manager

OPERATIONS MANAGER

- Female
- 30 years old and above
- College graduate (Business Management or Business Administration, Marketing, Economics)
- Masters degree an advantage
- At least 5 years work experience as Operations Manager, specifically in the area of mall and tenant management
- Good public relations and pleasing personality

SYSTEMS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Male or female
- 30 years old and above
- College graduate (with background in computer systems and information technology)
- At least 5 years work experience as Management Information Systems Manager or IT Manager
- Experience with mall operations and POS systems an advantage

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

SECOND FLOOR, OROSA BUILDING
1010 MERALCO AVENUE, PASIG CITY
(Infront of Department of Education)

A Foreign-Assisted Project Needs

1 Project Development Officer V (Salary Grade 24)

Must have the relevant master's degree and Civil Service professional eligibility. Must have strong background on decentralization practices, advocacy, monitoring and evaluation and management information systems. Must have at least 4 years of management and supervision experience in education projects monitoring and evaluation. Must have actual experience in education sector foreign-assisted projects, education/ project MIS report, news and/or article writing. Must have good communication skills, both oral and written, working knowledge of computer operations and at least 24 hours of relevant training in management and supervision.

1 Project Development Officer III (Salary Grade 18)

Must have completed the relevant bachelor's degree, with 2 years of relevant experience, 8 hours of training and Civil Service (CS) professional eligibility. Must demonstrate knowledge and application skills of decentralization and advocacy strategies and approaches, development of capacity building activities and materials and plan preparation and target setting. With good communication skills, both oral and written and working knowledge of computer operations.

1 Project Development Officer II (Salary Grade 15)

Must be a licensed structural engineer, with 8 hours of relevant training. Must have at least 2 years of actual experience in construction management and administration of foreign-assisted projects implemented by local government units. Must have knowledge and application skills in designing structures of various school building facilities and utilities. Must be physically fit, with good communication skills, both oral and written, with working knowledge in computer operations (CAD, ACCESS and Program Manager).

Please bring your resumé with 2x2 photo on or before May 1, 2002 to:

Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project
National Project Management Office (NPMO)
Department of Education
5th Floor Building, Dep Ed Complex
Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

PRODUCTION SPECIALIST

- College graduate preferably Fine Arts or with background in computer
- 1 year experience in production work in a publication
- Knowledge in Pagemaker, Photoshop and Microsoft word
- Knowledge on how to use scanner
- Encoding Skills, Proofreading Skills, Layouting and Designing Skills

Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue
(formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets,
Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

LBP SERVICE CORPORATION
Committed to the people we serve

The **LBP Service Corporation**, a prestigious manpower solutions provider, is in need of applicants with the following qualifications:

RAMP CONTROLLERS

- Male
- Holder of a valid Air Traffic Control (ATC) License

INTERNAL CONTROL OFFICERS

- Male / Female
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Not over 40 years old
- Prior work experience not necessary

DATA ENCODERS

- Male / Female
- Not over 30 years old
- Possesses a pleasing personality
- Graduate of Computer Science or any related 4-year course

ACCOUNTING CLERKS

- Male / Female
- Accounting graduate
- Not over 30 years old
- Prior work experience not necessary

Interested persons are invited to visit our office at the **9th Floor, Century Tower, 100 Tordesillas corner H.V. Dela Costa Streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City**. Questions and inquiries may be directed to Juliette or Valerie at **753-1625**. You may also email us at lbpsc@mozcom.com.

Please come in business attire.

A leading transport Company is URGENTLY in need of a dynamic, assertive and mature professional to occupy the position of:

LEGAL & PERSONNEL MANAGER

The ideal candidate will be responsible for:

- Advising the senior management on the legal aspects of over-all company programs, plans and actions;
- Assisting in corporate functions, such as, preparation of resolutions and minutes of stockholders' and directors' meeting;
- Representing the company and liasing with various government agencies;
- Over-all supervision of administrative and HR matters;
- In general, all work necessitating services of legal counsel.

Member of the Philippine Bar, LLB graduate with 2-3 years experience in general practice, administrative and personnel matters, computer literate, and willing to travel anywhere in the Philippines or abroad, can work with minimum supervision, and must be a fast and efficient worker. *An attractive compensation package plus a company car awaits the successful candidate.*

Qualified applicants are requested to submit their comprehensive resumé with photo, telephone numbers & other credentials not later than April 19, 2002 to:

P.O. Box 7748
Domestic Airport Post Office
Metro Manila, Philippines

ABC®
American Bio-Clinical Laboratories, International

A Specialty Service, National Reference Medical Laboratory

NOW HIRING • NOW HIRING • NOW HIRING • NOW HIRING • NOW HIRING

MARKETING REPRESENTATIVES

- ☑ Male/Female
- ☑ Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology
- ☑ Licensed or unlicensed
- ☑ Marketing experience is an advantage

MESSENGER/COURIER

- ☑ Male
- ☑ Must have experience as a motorized messenger
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29/F IBM Plaza, Eastwood City Cyberpark, E. Rodriguez Avenue, Bagumbayan, Quezon City
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ACCOUNTANT

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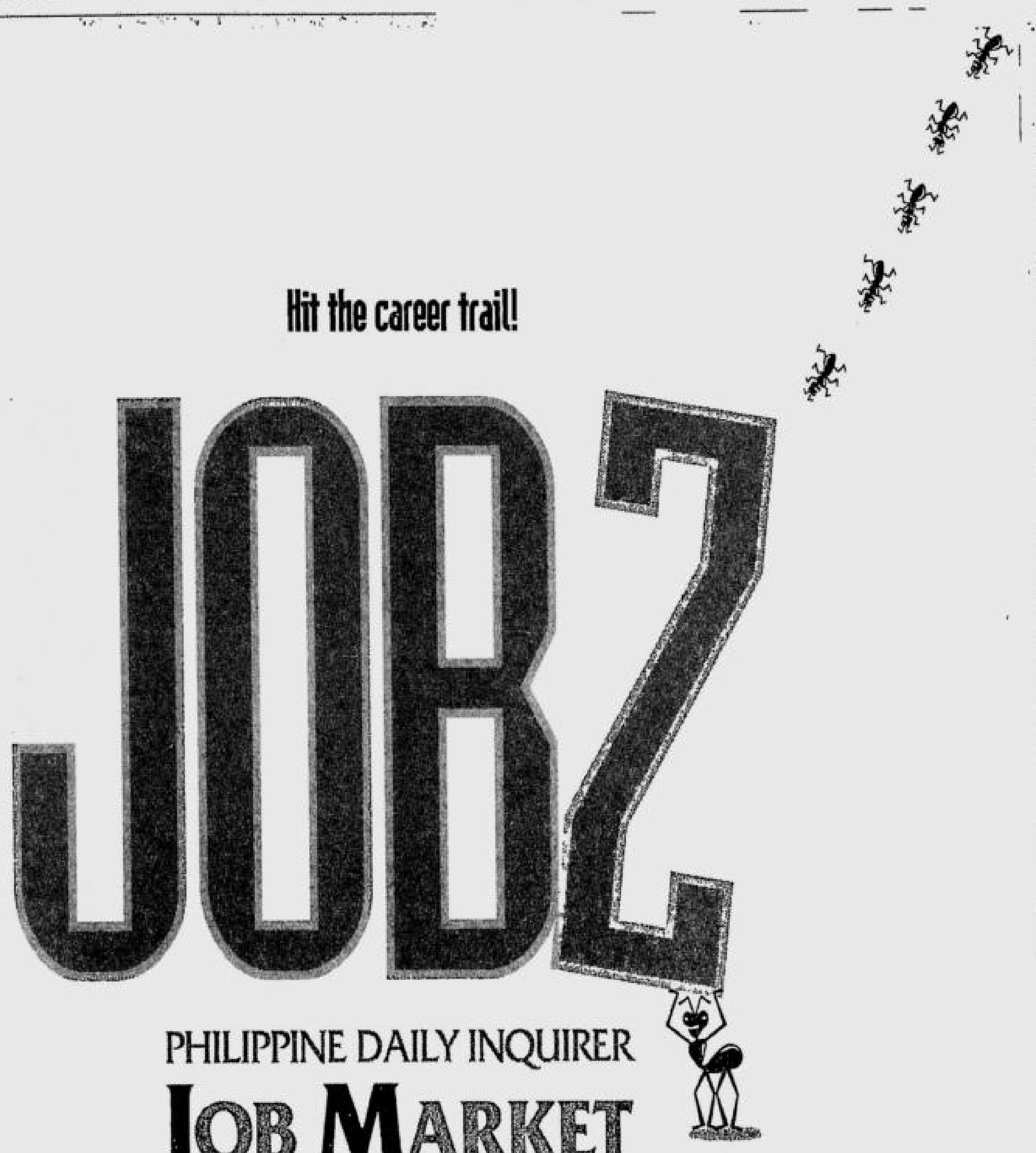

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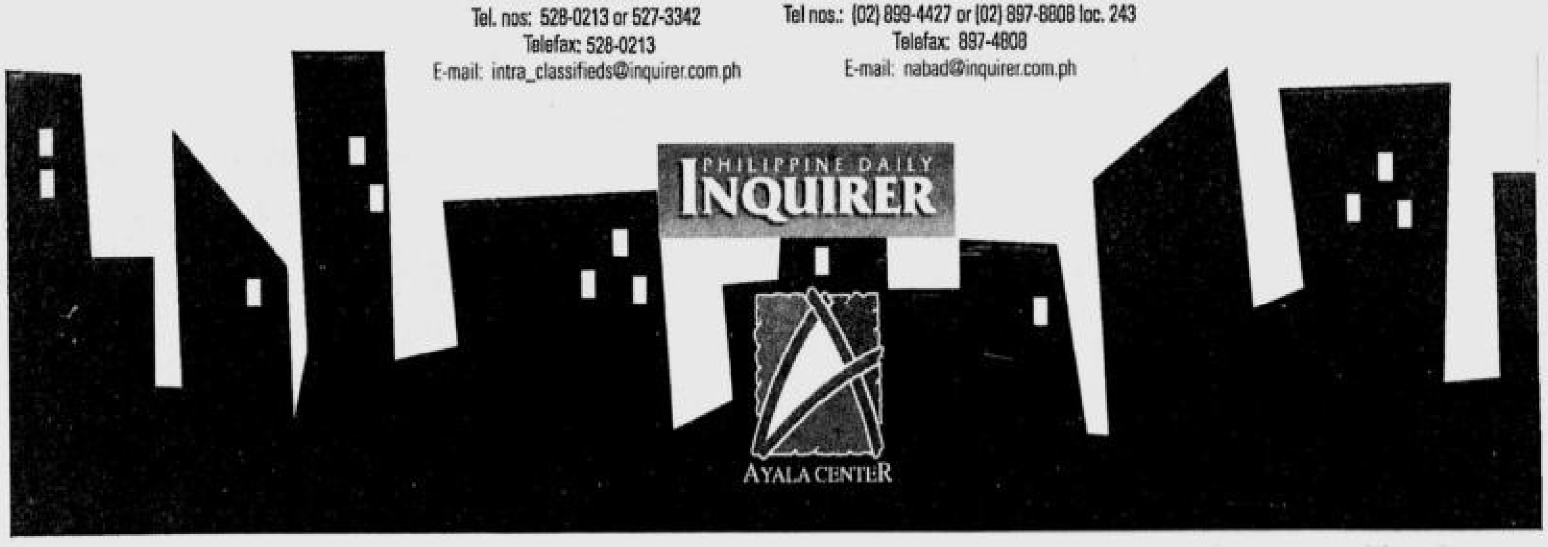

If you're interested to advertise & participate as a sponsor of "JOBZ", kindly fill out this form and fax it to the branch nearest you.

Yes, we would like to be a part of "JOBZ" on April 22 to 24, 2002 at the Glorietta Activity Center, Ayala, Makati City. ☐ Please call me. ☐ Please send me more info.

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Position:
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April 14, 2002
magazine

It's a long way from German Playboy and a love affair gone sour to Philippine shores and holding the mike for the mammoth E! Entertainment channel. But then, this green-eyed model and TV personality is as spunky and sensible as she is sexy

Love that Lana Asanin

By Teddy Montelibano
Photographs by Jim Guiao Punzalan

A BROKEN heart brought former Playboy Magazine model Lana Asanin to the Philippines. After three years as a successful ramp and commercial model and TV personality, she's ready for the big time; E! Entertainment has just tapped her as host for its cable TV series, "Wild On." Look out, Lana's burning the tracks on her way to that dream!

Cool as the proverbial cucumber, she makes temperatures rise as she strikes a summer pose by the poolside of Shangri-La Makati. There's simply no stopping 24-year-old Lana – not a broken love affair, not the tart tongues of vengeful movie scribes, not the intrigues that regard her Playboy Magazine stint darkly. The green-eyed Svetlana has her sights fixed beyond Philippine shores and if she plays her cards right, it just might be *balik*-LA, USA for her before the year is through.

It's been three years since Lana first appeared in the local scene. She'd just broken off a three-year relationship with a scion of the family who owns the Thailand-based Dusit Hotel chain. The affair that started in Los Angeles, USA had fizzled out in Bangkok, and heartbroken, she came to Manila sure of only one thing — no way would she go back to a cold country like Germany.

It is in Frankfurt that Lana's story begins. Her Yugoslav parents, both "conservative like Filipinos," had settled in Germany where she and her brother grew up. Still, Lana recalls, "I always felt different there, and always told myself that one day, I'm going to leave this country."

Like most Europeans, Lana struck out on her own after high school. She was 14 when she started working and earning her own money. She tended boutiques and dabbled in commercial modeling.

At 15, she hit it big when she was discovered by an agent who represented Playboy Germany. She landed on the cover of that year's December issue of Playboy Germany, and was $25,000 richer.

A friend, an American model, invited her to the US when she was 18. It was in Los Angeles, in a private club in La Cienega, where she met her Thai boyfriend, Chiamp, who was then studying in the States. A year and a half later, they flew to Thailand. "I loved my boyfriend, we were happy together, but I wasn't happy about living in Thailand," she says of her sojourn in her first Asian country. It could very well have been because she was living with her boyfriend's family, and she was feeling cramped.

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Love

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She admitted, though, that she was bored doing nothing, and so she hooked up with the Hong Kong-based CalCarrie's Modeling Agency and resumed what she did well: model. She did Singapore, Hong Kong and other Asian countries, and soon enough, her relationship with Chiamp soured and floundered.

"I was in Singapore when my agency asked, why don't you try out the Philippines?" That she did, with her former boyfriend bringing her all the way to Manila and arranging for her to stay in the local Dusit Hotel in Makati for two weeks, "just to be sure I was going to be alright," she says.

Since then, Lana has had her share of ramp and commercial modeling in print and broadcast. She also came out on the noontime TV show "Eat Bulaga," hosted "Eezy Dancing" until it went off the air; did a movie ("*Bakit Ba Ganyan*," a comedy with Vic Sotto) and, like any local showbiz denizen, had her share of intrigues. A showbiz reporter with whom she had a run-in discovered her Playboy stint in the early '90s, and tried to use it to trash her reputation. "It only made me more popular," Lana shrugs. She dated a few guys, including the son of a former Erap ally who later became a Manila congressman, and got to know some interesting characters in the modeling industry, including one who tried, but failed, to get her into the flesh trade lurking behind the legit movie machinery.

"Honestly, I could have made millions by now, considering the offers to do calendars and bold movies, but I rejected them," she says. Some friends have told her she was crazy to wave aside such offers, "but I told them, okay, so I have a million now, but what's going to happen when the really good thing comes? Because, I told them, I know that one day it will come."

And so it did.

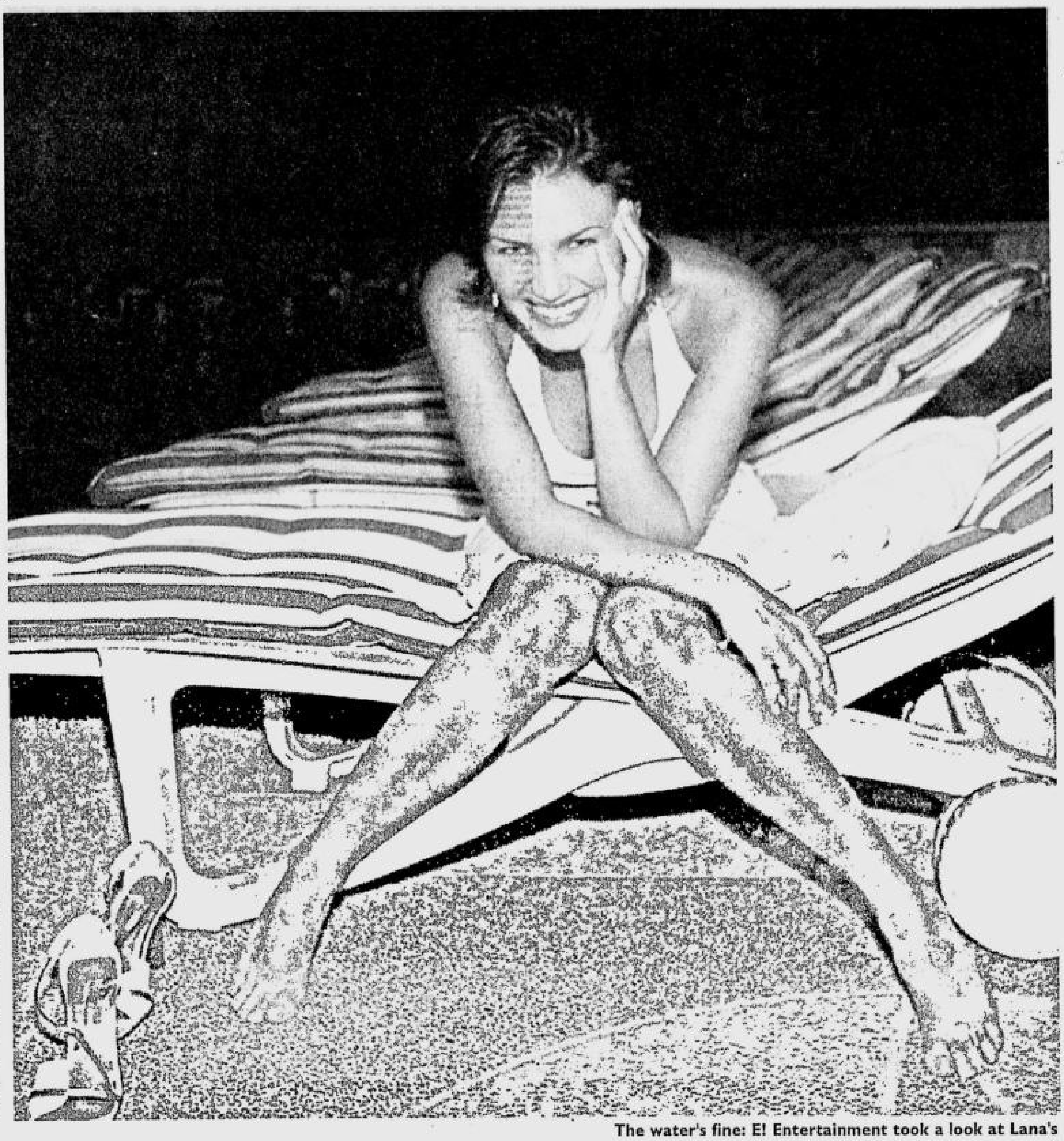
When Lana learned that E! Philippines had just been set up in the country by Eric Canoy, president of RMN network, and Lito Cruz, the model immediately dropped her portfolio in their office. She then followed up with Cruz on the video that she had sent as part of her portfolio.

"Well," admitted Cruz, "there were others who had given me their portfolio, and I'd never even heard of Lana Asanin before. At that time, we were not actively looking for anyone, just an occasional host because we didn't have any local show yet. But when she reminded me of her tape, I watched it when I wasn't busy."

The videotape Lana sent was a taped episode of "Martin After Dark," in which she ended up interviewing the consummate interviewer himself, Martin Nievera. Exclaimed Cruz after viewing her stint: "Hey, here's someone who's not only a pretty face but who's got brains as well!" Two weeks later, LA called to tell him they'd like to do a two-hour episode on the Philippines in their hot "Wild On" series. This needed a local co-host, so Cruz sent several tapes for E! Entertainment to preview including Lana's tape. LA's reply: "Yep, she's the one we want!"

Very quietly, E! Entertainment, the biggest entertainment cable network channel in the US and beamed worldwide to millions of viewers, slipped into the Philippines last February and filmed in Boracay, Subic Bay, Manila and Cebu. The crew from Hollywood came with celebrity host Kristin Malia, and alongside her was Lana Asanin.

In June this year, some 400 million homes across the globe will watch this spunky, sexy, witty woman do her thing in the two-hour "Wild On: The Philippines" episode over E! Entertainment. What's next for Lana? Hollywood, maybe?



The water's fine: E! Entertainment took a look at Lana's videoand said, "She's the one we want"

Sunday Inquirer Magazine April 14, 2002
Vol. 15 No. 6 ISSN 0116-232X

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THE SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE holds office at Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, with telephone number **897-8808 locals 317 and 318**. Mailing address: **PO Box 2050, 1099 Manila, Philippines**. E-mail: **sim@inquirer.com.ph**

The Cover Image It's a long way from German Playboy to Philippine shores , but Lana Asanin is as sensible as she is sexy
Photograph by Jim Guiao Punzalan

Poetry

Learning to Swim

Keeping to your sea is like holding water,
cupping one terrible wave after another,
all troubled by a memory of depth
and of your face, glinting in sunlight, moonlight,
in every awkward moment that catches one
staring.

Now I know it's madness
to wade through your water, farther offshore,
and not drown. You are everything about the sea
that pulls things down.
I sit rock-heavy on the sand.

What is the color of water?
It is that of loss,
that which slips off your fingers, the shoreline,
its final sentence.

Joel M. Toledo

Kay Levi Celerio (1910-2002)

Inawit ng dahon ang iyong pag-ibig,
Pangarap, ligaya, at dusang tiniis;
Taginting ng iyong pangala'y narinig
At pinalakpakan ng buong daigdig.

Damdamin at diwa ng laksang awiting
Likha mo'y humubog sa aming mithiin;
Sa dahon nga nitong kasaysayan natin,
Natala kang isang Bayani ng Sining.

Buhay mo man ngayon ay dahong napigtal,
Ang iyong gunita'y tuloy sa pag-iral
Hangga't umaawit, hangga't sumasayaw
Ang dahon sa suyo't saliw ng amihan.

Sa pupuntahan mong mapayapang pook,
Mga dahon doon ay di natutuyot;
Sa kal'walhatian niyong mapagkupkop
Na Ama ay walang hanggan kang tutugtog.

Michael M. Coroza

Cave

Stand before its mouth and know
It is the heart of fear.
The entrance is narrow,
That dark inside beats
To sustain
What lies beyond the crack.

But raise your lantern and enter.
See and feel the walls where—
In black and brown hues of courage,
In red and violet pigments of bravery,
The yellow ochre of stealth and indirection—
A pony gallops with the waves of grace,
And an antlered stag swims with ramrod strength
Across rivers of submerged pain
And death's waiting womb.
The Unicorn with its stiff cadence
Marches towards eternity's fullness,
Here stunned into the wall's stillness
By a caveman whose fear
Became his hiding place.

But why does the heart hide its art?

Scanty, you see, are the games of love.
You have to coax them out
With roseate rituals and sempervirent rites.
Hunter becomes one
With his spiritual quarry,
In the pure
Of the soul's lure.

So, look at the picture till it bleeds.
It will one day come to life.

Jonel Abellanosa

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <sim@inquirer.com.ph>

Celebrities

By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

Pilita's Endless Summer

BETOY JOHNSON

CHEERS! Pilita and husband Carlos toast the good times ahead. Behind them is Carlos' son, Edgar, Kookabar 'N Grill's bartender

SHE'S in love again.

"I think God sent Carlos to me," says Pilita Corrales of fourth husband Carlos Lopez, an Australian citizen from Paraguay whom she married in September last year. "We're still on our honeymoon so don't take too long now," winks Carlos, who is seated nearby.

The couple has been close family friends Down Under where Pilita's many relatives have settled. Every time he came to Manila with his wife, recounts Carlos, they would stay at Pilita's place. Still, he confesses, he used to envy the singer's husband then, Amado del Paraguay.

It was only four years ago when the timing seemed right. Both were single at the time. Over a family dinner at Carlos' Italian restaurant in Sydney, says Pilita, Carlos had a favorite refrain, "I'm going to get this girl someday." She thought it was a joke until he burned the lines when she did a US concert. Both share a love of music, Carlos being a band member in Australia where he migrated at 25. He used to be a rugby player in Paraguay, he adds, but discovered to his dismay that his playing skills were considered too rudimentary Down Under. He settled for a waiter's job until he eventually bought off his boss' restaurant.

He seemed to be the right guy but still, Pilita hesitated. "It's been a long time since I broke off with Amado and I thought it wasn't too bad living alone. I have my work, my children and grandchildren and I wasn't in search of anybody else. If somebody came into my life, it will come. Of course, my children would tell me, 'Mommy, how can you meet anybody when you never go out?' Well, I thought, if it's meant for me, it will come. I believe all of us have one person meant for us at any one time."

Carlos, she adds, "is so kind, generous and loving and the children love him. Jackie was even the one who asked him, are you going to marry my Mom? Because they saw I was happy. So I said, this is it."

Falling in love without reservation is something of a habit with Pilita, and she admits as much. "I always give my all. If I could love another way instead of totally and completely, I would but it doesn't work with me, you know. I've done everything for love, never for anything else. Nobody can say that I went with this guy because I received this or that. More so because I was the one always giving."

PILITA Garrido Corrales was born in Cebu, of a Granada-born mother who never learned to speak straight Tagalog and a father who was the manager of San Miguel Corporation for Visayas and Mindanao. The second of six children, Pilita enjoyed the trappings of an affluent life, including attending a finishing school in Madrid, Spain in 1955. But everything changed when her father died a year later.

While her mother took in boarders at their San Marcelino home, Pilita took a secretarial course at St. Paul's Manila and worked as a radio talent for a Spanish program. "If my father had not died, I would never have entered showbusiness," Pilita says in another interview. "He said, why don't you just study with your aunt (opera singer Lulu Corrales de Razon), but I wasn't an opera singer."

Instead, she sang at the Opera House and other places considered disreputable by the Corrales-Razon family. "They cut us off completely," she recounts. Only when she became Pilita Corrales did they start inviting her to parties again. "But I never went; they can come here," she says.

Pilita met her first husband, a pelotari from Madrid named Agustin on the radio program where her friends were always bringing the latest records from Spain. The marriage ended from day one, she says. "He was a good man until he took a drink," she adds.

Jose Blanco, Jackie Lou's father, she met in 1962 but he turned out to be another mistake. "He realized he could live with no one, but by then, I was already pregnant," recounts Pilita. One of her greatest crisis, she adds, was when Jose kidnapped Jackie when she was a year old. "But when I saw him, I didn't have the heart to bring him to court. I saw how much he loved Jackie. He never married again, he never had other children. So you know, I also did it for Jackie. Everyday her father would be at my house until the day he died in 1979."

Highly publicized was her relationship with former matinee idol, Eddie Gutierrez, father of Ramon Christopher. "But I knew right away that he wasn't ready," says Pilita. He had his career and women all over the place and he could not afford to be tied down, she says. "When I was pregnant, I already knew he would say no, he didn't want to take responsibility. So at least that affair was immediately cut off."

She's back, in a mini-skirt no less, with a new love and a new business. Truly, Pilita Corrales is basking in life's full glory, the sun on her ageless face

Fortunately, things turned out for the best. She talks of being on good terms with Gutierrez's wife, Annabelle Rama, and of father and son getting along famously. "Now everything is fine and I thank God for that. But I always forgive and everything I forget. It's difficult but if God can forgive…"

She stayed the longest with Amado del Paraguay, but though she admits in another interview that she would have loved to grow gray with him, she's also prepared for anything, she adds. Certainly, she's prepared for love. "I'm the kind of person who needs someone constantly. I always have to love and be loved back."

In fact, she adds, it's love that keeps her young.

How young?

She laughs throatily, heartily: "I always say I'm 32, even younger than my daughter Jackie Lou," she chortles.

It's easy to believe her. Just a few nights ago, this singer from the long-running '60s show, "An Evening with Pilita" guested on The Sharon Cuneta Show, in a mini-skirt! Has she discovered the fountain of youth or the wonders of surgery?

Here, she says gamely, leaning close. "Here, look at my face, give me a close-up look, see if you can find any scar or trace of a facelift." More than any magic potion or surgeon's skills, she reveals, it's her sunny disposition that keeps her young. "Everything you see on the outside has to come from the inside. And I'm basically a happy person, a funny person. I have no quarrels with anybody. I'm no prima donna, I hate prima donnas! I'm also out of the circuit so I'm not subjected to many intrigues."

Marriage has helped, she adds of her beauty regimen. "I actually have more time to exercise now. Indoor exercise," she laughs suggestively. "Oh, we can get wild," she adds, throwing Carlos a naughty glance.

The two who confess to spending all their free time as a couple have just found another excuse to work together. They've just opened Kookabar, an Australian bar and grill at the Greenhills shopping center. Their motto, says Carlos, is 'You're laughing,' which in Australian slang means, "Everything's all right, no problem."

It's a family place that serves salad, steaks, grilled meats and finger foods, says Carlos, "where prices are reasonable, the servings just right, and where you can just hang out and nurse a drink without being pressured to keep buying."

No, Pilita doesn't cook ("Why, she doesn't even drink!" says Carlos), but she's his inspiration, he adds. "At Giovanni's, this restaurant I own in Australia, everybody loves her—the chefs, the dishwashers, the waiters. As for me, I show her everything including the menu cards and she always has some sensible comment. That's why I always listen to my wife."

Pilita, in fact, seems to be more hands-on than mere Muse. She works her cellphone all this time, checking on the supplies; examines the exact tint for the glass windows, and tells of slumming in Divisoria to buy the crockery ("Oh they love me there; everybody's kissing me and asking me to go inside their store *para marami daw na pumasok na tao*").

Affirms Carlos, whose family used to run the Colonial hotel in Paraguay for 58 years: "She's very supportive, spiritually and emotionally. She's my idol, my best friend, my lover."

Apparently, others think these are qualities that Pilita can parlay into a political career, but the singer has declined all offers of political support. "But what will I do there? I've protected my name all these years. Once I enter politics, it's finished," she says.

"Pilita won't go into politics for power or money because material things mean absolutely nothing to her," says Carlos. "unless they're in the form of diamond rings and expensive shoes," he adds, to loud guffaws from his wife.

She's happy where she is, agrees Pilita. She's had a charmed life and she has no regrets, she adds. "If I changed anything, I might not have had the same opportunities that I've had. Many of the things I had, even the heartbreaks, I don't regret. I would have liked for the children to grow up with a mother and a father at the same time, but they turned out well even if they only had me. I'm so proud of them. Everything turned out for the best."

Artwatch

By Gina Abuyuan-Llanes

A Painter of Happiness

As Hermes Alegre prepares to again put Philippine art on the map with an important exhibit at the Jasmine Ty Gallery in Singapore, he talks about the women in his life – and the joyful, random chaos behind his art

JOHNNY VILLENA

DON'T TALK to Hermes Alegre before 3 p.m. Like many other artists, he is an insomniac, works ungodly hours and in a constant dilemma about how to stem the tide—no, the tsunami—of images that floods his brain night after night, day after day. It's a "problem" he was made aware of by his mentor ("*tatay-tatayan ko*"), the late Jerry Navarro, National Artist for Visual Arts. "Sometimes," he says in Filipino, "you wish you could dream, but then you don't. Sometimes, you don't want to dream, but you do. Until now, I still have to learn how to control them."

On good days, though, he's able to manage them, rein them in and hold them on his canvas. But after long stretches of being cooped up in his studio, he lets go. "When they become too much that they get all muddled up, I need to unwind."

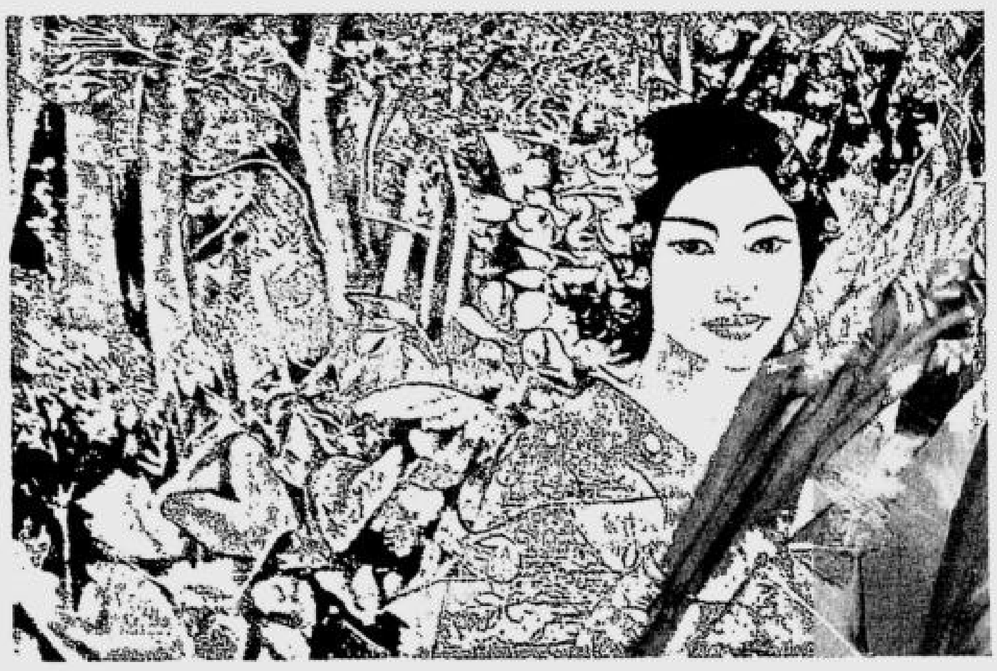
It may be ironic, therefore, that for the lengths Hermes Alegre goes to clear his mind, a sullied canvas is what he needs to face before he can actually begin with one of his works. "When I start a painting, I don't like my canvas white. I can't see anything. So I mess it up first. So when images start to form, all I have to do is follow them. It's like recycling."

He continues: "Because if the canvas is blank—the word 'blank' itself means nothing already—you don't have anything to work with. A little problem is needed, a little stain, to get you thinking, 'How am I going to fix this?'"

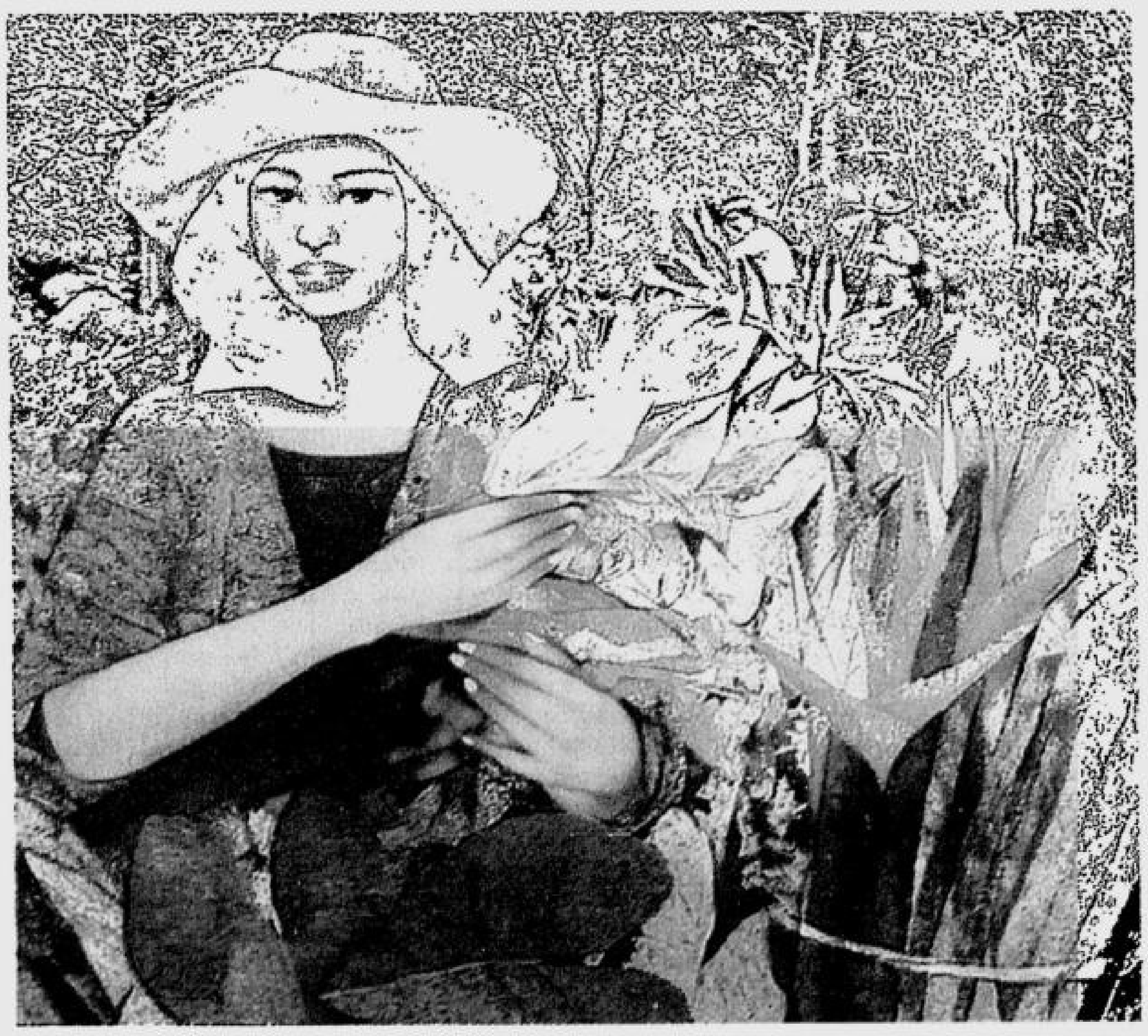
Because of this technique, Hermes doesn't use studies. The many times he's attempted to use them, he wound up making totally different paintings. "I get even more confused," he says. "So what's the use?" So his works remain uncultivated in their most "positive" (a favorite word of Hermes') form, a mélange of "women and nature and expressions and colors and air." His women stay nymphs of the untamed forests, the free spirits of the garden; his ferns and vines and flowers remain errant as they brush a cheek, caress a shoulder or hide a breast. They're joyous and vivid renditions of the rural scenes Hermes grew up in, of the women he loves, and of the profusion of imagery teeming in the garden that is his brain. In Hermes' world, the colors and forms make a sensuous riot—an infinite cacophony that's grown impressively well on Manila's art collectors for the past 15 years.

Hopefully, they'll flourish just as well with Singapore audiences when the 34-year old painter embarks on his 11th major show, "Nymphs and Blooms: The Singapore Collection," at the Jasmine Ty Gallery of Fine Arts, at the Paragon Complex from April 26 to May 12, 2002.

"It's a concrete jungle," Hermes says of the city. "Everything is massive, artificial. Everything's in place. I'm not used to that! I like randomness. So I thought, I need to inject some chaos in this environment. I need to show in my paintings that forests are like this, leaves grow like this. This is the way nature is."



Hermes' "Harvest at the Flower Farm" (below) and "Oriental Nymph" (above right), oils on canvas



Since his first one-man show in 1990, Hermes has only had 12 exhibits—three being two-man shows. "You don't 'use' an exhibit every year, or every three months. It's not about how many exhibits you have. When you hold an exhibit, you have to show something new—a new approach, technique, a new feeling that you want to share with the viewer."

This completely unintended "marketing strategy" (if one can even call it that) isn't just what makes Hermes Alegre one of the most saleable artists today. "Maybe it's because the viewer can easily relate to my work; I don't alienate. Some painters say they're 'deep,' so they make abstract works that I don't understand. When you're given an abstract work, it's like you're being given a puzzle. You're left to figure it out on your own. My works don't need explanation—a woman here, a plant there. Sometimes I don't even want to give them titles—you can give your own titles to my paintings!"

"Nymphs in Bloom" may very well fit each and every one of his works. Admittedly, the subject may seem repetitive despite its constant reinterpretation—and of this Hermes is fully aware and continues to be unapologetic. He's heard it all before. "Sure. But I can't escape it. There are so many mothers and wives, more women to render than men—and men are not even nice to look at in the first place!"

Jokingly, he blames his proclivity for the female form on his college years in the Philippine Women's University. But kidding aside, it stems from his closeness to his mother Helena, who at 70-plus years of age, is still one of the "coolest people" he knows. "When I was young, I told my mother I wanted to marry someone like her." He nearly did when he married his wife Helena, a former Bayanihan dancer, four years ago.

"There's something about the beauty of women that you'll never see in men. Of course, we're expected to love our mothers. Then when I was single, I was looking for the right woman, until I met my wife, who also adds to my inspiration." The cosmic connection extends to his daughter, Awit, four months old, who shares the same birthday with his mother. He also has a son, three-year old Adanjose.

Like any artist with soul, Hermes' blossoming came after years of struggle. He was a self-confessed "problem child," having been born years after his last sibling was well into puberty. Being left with no one to play with, he preferred to loaf instead of going to school, and he only discovered his talent after his parents "let me decide what I wanted to do with my life." Even with a scholarship from PWU, he had to fend for his other needs in the big city.

He lived in the slums and peddled his paintings door-to-door. He learned how to haggle with not-so-honest art galleries who shortchanged young unknowns. It's a reality Hermes wants eradicated, but a reality that still prevails. "It's as if the poor students just give their paintings away—what they receive is only enough to cover the materials. But at least they still get to sell it; it's still positive, unlike when the galleries just take your work away and make you wait for nothing. It isn't a good practice, but it helped me learn how to talk to people, how to tell if they were cheating me or not."

Later, he sold his early works to banks for paltry sums, sometimes on installment basis. "I supported myself through painting. I put myself through school by painting, I bought my car by painting—everything I have, I got through painting!"

He became a full-time artist 12 years ago, and also dabbled in book illustrating for "The Quarrelling Kites," 2000, by Lin Acacio-Flores; "The Mats," 1995, by Francisco Arcellana; and *"Bahay Kubo,"* 1993. Despite his rising star, Hermes—like the women and gardens in his paintings—remains unaffected. He laughs at himself, at the time he was refused entrance by the guard to his own exhibit at the MET because he had to change a flat tire and his arms were covered to the elbows in grease. Then there was the time another guard requested him to take off his shoes for a security check before he entered a hotel. He also refuses to call himself an "artist" until he exhausts everything there is to know about his craft.

"Until now I'm still discovering technique and colors and forms, so I don't know if I'll still be painting in 10 years. No one can say. The most important thing for me," he concludes, "is that 1) you don't have any enemies, so that you can create beautiful works. 2) You're happy with your life, with what you do, with what's happening. 3) You don't go hungry. You can suffer a little bit, but not so that you become wretched. All artists need a small amount of trauma to give their art more meaning. That's the only formula for a painter to succeed—not only painters, but everyone in general."

Again, he breaks into laughter, and you understand why this artist shines the way he does. Alegre's works are indeed *alegre*—more than colors and the forms, they're all his emotions and thoughts, laid out on canvas and offered to anyone who chooses to celebrate happiness and life.

Music

By Alex Almario

The Listener

DJ and record producer Toti Dalmacion has lived with music all his life, from his 20,000-strong record collection to his early promotion of indie music. For him, it's all about expanding the Filipinos' limited musical horizons

ROGER CARPIO

MUSIC isn't supposed to be taken seriously. It's just a piece of trifle drifting in the background in some jeepney or bar, and nothing more.

Of course, those who think this way have no grasp of the romance, the vibrance, and the utter emotional richness present in music. And no one would probably feel more sorry for them than Toti Dalmacion, DJ, record producer, music consultant for MYX (foreign canned shows such as "Later with Jools Holland," "Beat U.K." and "Mew Music," and locally produced "Halo Halo" were among his recommendations), and visionary behind Groove Nation. With over 20,000 records in his collection and virtually his entire life devoted to sublime sounds, Toti knows what it's all about. "It's something that enriches my life," he says. "I want others to experience that as well."

He started collecting records at a young age. When he went to Los Angeles in 1980 with his mother, who was the manager of "Hotdog" and was accompanying them on their US tour at the time, his collecting binge began. "My mother would drop me off at Melrose in the morning and pick me up in the afternoon." He scurried through every second-hand record store in the area, wide-eyed. "The $5 or $10 she gave me every day for food were all spent on vinyl."

Most of his collection was accumulated during his stay in the US from '86 to '93, while going to every record store, flea market, record fair, and garage sale his feet could carry him to. Today, he gets his records through the network he established in the US, mostly from working at Arista Records, where he also had his share of freebies. Although he does have stacks of CDs, he still prefers collecting vinyl because "I always knew that they would be of great value someday. Some releases also have tracks in vinyl that you'll never find in the CD."

His eclectic collection ranges from jazz artist Ornette Coleman and lounge icon Esquivel, to (gasp) Rick Astley and Debbie Gibson ("these were what DJs played in the late '80s before 'house' was invented"), to the more obscure indie acts like Diagram Brothers and The Arcadians.

Today, Toti and his circle of friends make up the multimedia music collective known as Groove Nation, what was initially a record store he opened in 1993 after coming back from the US and broadening his musical horizons. They have since matter-of-factly called themselves The Purveyors of Taste. This, along with their "to educate and to inform" rhetoric, may seem condescending to some, but Toti notes that Filipinos have always been given "the normal, safe, tested, radio-friendly material. The bottom line has always been money: you give people what you assume they want."

Ultimately, he's simply sharing something too good to be kept to himself. 'When you discover new music as a kid, you tend to be selfish," says the 35-year-old connoisseur. "Then there's the feeling that you want to share it among your friends. It's the same with Groove Nation; this time we're sharing it with everyone."

Still, Toti has not escaped developing a reputation for being "hard left" when it comes to music. This he doesn't mind and, in fact, has inspired a new eye-grabbing logo for Groove Nation: an inverted hammer and sickle inside a red star. "We've been labeled as 'the self-proclaimed guardians of the underground'," he smiles. "I accept that because I have nothing to be ashamed of. I think it's good that there are people like myself who get to be the balance between art and entertainment."

Toti has been known to talk the talk, but he has definitely walked the walk. One cannot trace the roots of the indie, lounge and electronic dance music phenomena in the Philippines without stumbling upon his footprints.

"I would like to think that Groove Nation paved the way, no matter how some may disagree," he proudly says. It was in 1995, two years after returning from the US and immersing himself in its rave culture and four years before "techno" and "house" became household terms in the Philippines, that Toti launched the seminal Consortium, a roving club which he defines as "a union of like-minded individuals who want change." "We paved the way in the sense that we were really trying to make them understand what a 'rave' is and what the clubbing culture is all about. It wasn't just parties, it was about the music."

By the time raves hit the Philippine mainstream in 1999, the rest of the scene digressed. "When one or two people start something pure, in time, others see the money making potential and jump in to dilute, and it becomes more about business," he laments. Prior to Consortium, Toti already blazed the trail for the influx of another genre—indie—Groove Nation's longtime specialty. Through his store and his first radio program on NU 1067 in 1994 called "Groove Nation Sessions," he pushed music by the likes of The BMX Bandits and The Wedding Present, which, in that "grunge" dominated time, was a virtual laughingstock. Today, indie has suddenly become a cool thing to listen to, so much so that a local indiepop compilation produced last year by Toti himself under the name "Mutual Admiration Society" landed in Tower Records' Top 10.

"Most Filipinos confuse trendiness with hipness," he observes. "I think some of us want to be hip. When you're hip, you're unconsciously on top of things without really trying to be." He believes that follow-the-herd tendencies prevent people from developing originality and individualism. "The appreciation is still not there. A majority probably enjoys a certain thing, but only on the surface, because society deems it as *uso*. There are still very few people who are really 'individuals."'

And so the "education" continues. Two late night radio programs every Friday on RX 93.1 serve as Groove Nation's latest incarnation – "The Fridge" and "Stealth Beats," featuring indie and electronic dance music, respectively. Radio programs have been part of Toti's agenda since 1994, hoping to open people's ears the way Howling Dave of RJ AM did for him during his youth when he got to hear bands he only read about until then, such as The Specials, XTC and The Clash. "It changed my direction," he says. "If I weren't able to hear all those back then, I probably wouldn't have collected records."

His immediate influences, however, were his uncles, Rene and Dennis Garcia of Hotdog. Last year, as a token of his appreciation, Toti put together a tribute album featuring the country's leading bands, from Barbie's Cradle to The Eraserheads, covering their favorite Hotdog song. It was an effort born out of great respect and admiration for a band he believes was "underrated." "They were the first Filipino act to use Tagalog in the contemporary pop form. But they're not as appreciated as they should be because they weren't willing to 'play the game' and were more focused on their craft." Today, Toti walks the same path.

He describes good music as "timeless." "It has soul, it captures a moment, or to quote The Smiths, it says something about my life." Case in point: the music of Blue Nite, a band known for poignant yet slush-free songs about love and heartbreak such as '80's hit "Stay," has been with him for two decades or, as he puts it, "from past girlfriends to my wife."

Indeed, music is Toti's driving force, a fact that was presaged at an early age. As a young man, he always wanted to play the music during family gatherings. At times, he would put on "Mr. Dieingly Sad" by '60s group The Critters, a song his parents used to play for him when he was a child. "Their eyes would light up," he recalls. "That's why I've always wanted to be a DJ because you're giving something back to people, and to see them react to what you play is a very satisfying thing."

Now he's playing music for everyone.

Watch out for "Fantastic Plastic Machine" in Manila on June 1. For details, please visit www.groovenation.org.

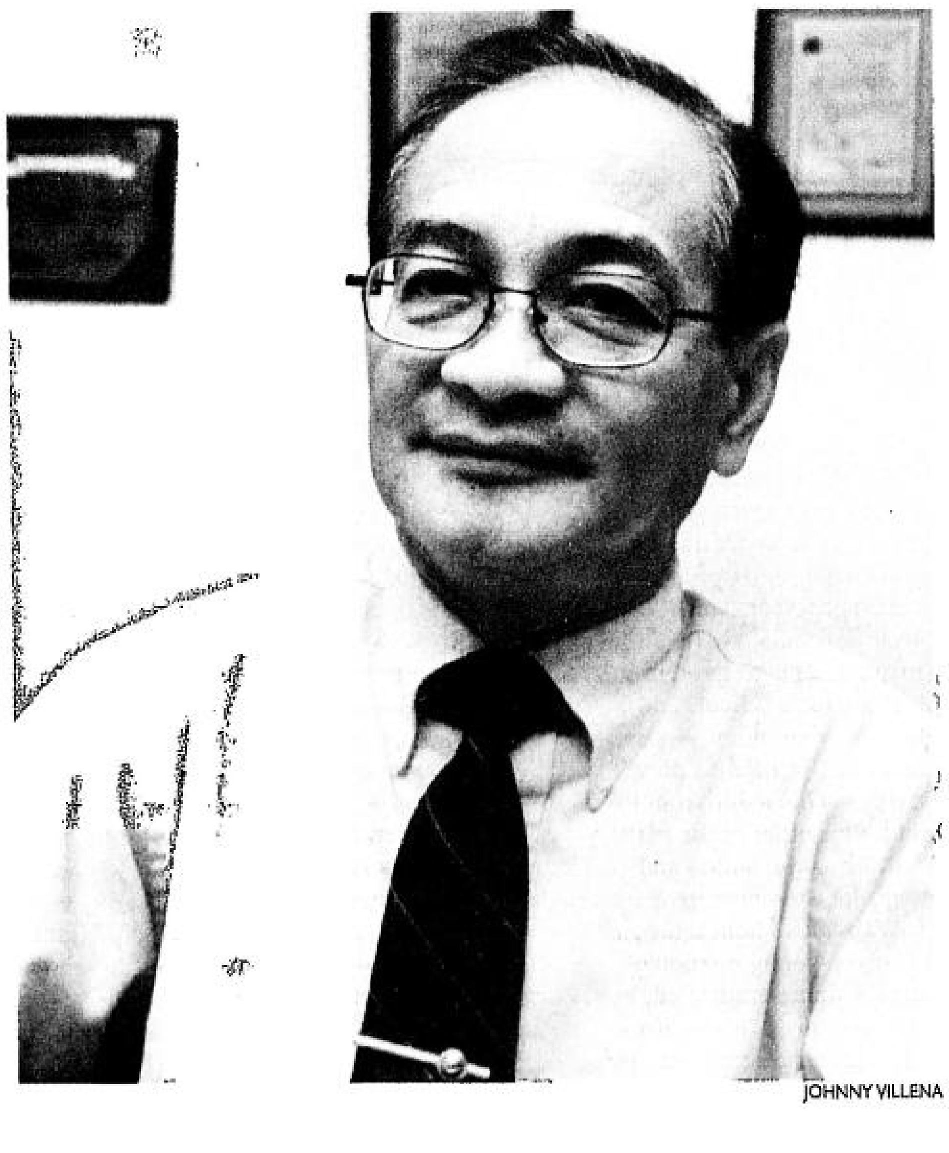
For a Cause

By Ina Alleco R. Silverio

Psyching Out the Masses

The poor are not exempt from psychological problems, says this amiable and accomplished psychiatrist who counsels indigent patients for free, giving advice on simple personal problems – or convincing them they won't go mad sleeping with wet hair

"IT'S A common misconception that people who go to psychiatrists have something wrong with them up here," says the doctor, jabbing a finger at his temple. "*Malamang* serious *na*, crazy. But everyone, at one point or another in their lives, could use counseling. Psychiatry is not just for those with schizophrenia or split personalities."



JOHNNY VILLENA

That's psychiatry 101 from Dr. Reynaldo. Lesaca Jr., whose sunny disposition and warm, easygoing manner give comfort to the emotionally and mentally disturbed. "Depression and anxiety attacks are normal," he says cheerily. "What we have to look out for is when they become debilitating –when the sufferer stops living and is immobilized inside his or her head because of them."

Dr. Lesaca is the second in a brood of seven. He and his siblings, four boys and two girls, were faculty brats, the children of a UP engineering professor and a UP pre-school teacher. His father, Prof. Reynaldo Lesaca Sr., was a campus legend for his tough calculus classes, and is the only Filipino to have interviewed Time's Man of the Century, Dr. Albert Einstein. Renowned violinist John Lesaca is a younger brother.

His wife, Efrenina de los Reyes, is a guidance counselor at the International School.

"So there's math, music and psychology all in the family," he says. Sports, too; Dr. Lesaca in his heyday in UP was almost a member of the UP Maroons, the basketball team.

From Dr. Lesaca's elementary years to high school and on through his pre-med education he went to UP Diliman, before getting his diploma as Doctor of Medicine at the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center (UERMMMC).

"I've always wanted to be a doctor – I can't remember wanting to be anything else," he says. "As for psychiatry, I am intrigued by people's behavior – why they do the things they do."

Dr. Lesaca has been practicing psychiatry since 1976, with a resume spanning three decades. "But I still don't have a couch. But if ever I do get one, it would be for me – it would be great to get some shut-eye between patients."

It's not clear if this breaches any psychiatric traditions, but Dr. Lesaca wants his patients to feel as comfortable as possible. He tells jokes, and talks to them in conversational Filipino. "It's not easy for Filipinos to open up in therapy. It's part of Filipino culture to just speak to your friends and family after a drink or two."

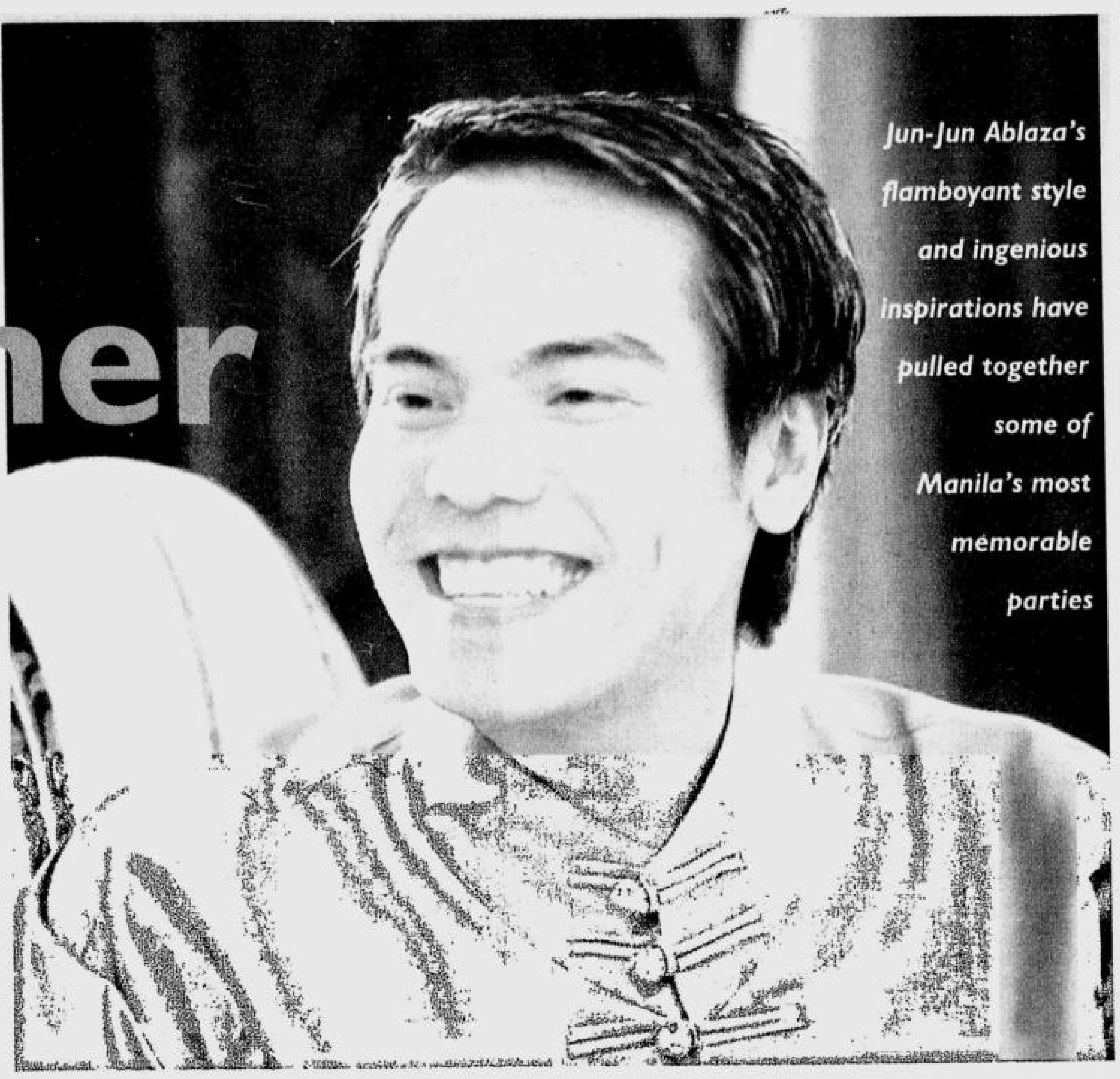
To page 7

Stylewatch

By Rodolfo A. G. Silvestre Jr.

Photographs by Romy Homillada

Grand Designer



Jun-Jun Ablaza's flamboyant style and ingenious inspirations have pulled together some of Manila's most memorable parties

SHOULD you bump into hot designer Jun-Jun Ablaza at a party and he seems a tad out of it, don't worry. Chances are he's still caught up in creating the masterpiece that is the party itself.

"I give my all when I am asked to create the right atmosphere for an event, so that by the time the party's about to start, I am too tired to even notice who's coming in or what's happening next," says Jun-Jun. "I normally don't eat or sleep a few days before an event. I am all hyped up and tense."

He calls himself an events designer, because, after all, "I do more than just design the set, as in a stage performance. More aptly, I create the ambience by putting together the physical environment where an event will take place," says Jun-Jun, recognized by many as the most promising of the younger stylists. His path to becoming an events designer wasn't clear from the start, however.

Jun-Jun invited SIM for an afternoon tea in his New Manila home. In a circular pavilion, the scene of many a party, he created a table setting that had for its theme a fusion of Chinese and European grandeur.

"Seeing materials helps me create," he offers. "They get my mind working, and the opportunity to do something presents itself." He realizes that "I'm too young myself to know if this is my life's work already, but I know this is where destiny has led me so far. But I'm making use of every opportunity that is coming my way."

Right after high school at the Ateneo, Jun-Jun began working towards a biology degree upon the prodding of his parents. Businessman Louie and lawyer Mely Ablaza wanted him to become a physician. One year later, he shifted to economics. But that didn't make sense to him either.

After delivering a "disgraceful academic performance," he convinced his parents to allow him to shift to an art-related course. At first, it would have been architecture, but it was a quota course at the University of the Philippines. So, he took up interior design instead. After finishing his course, he worked for a year as a visual merchandiser for the Duty Free Shop in Parañaque.

And then, a friend suggested that he try to be a personal shopper for Rustan's home department. "That didn't push through but since they were opening their Shangri-La branch, they asked me to design the fourth floor, which was the home furnishings section."

His parents, at that time, decided it was time for him and his sister Czarina to have a taste of independence. And so, the siblings were enrolled at the Gemological Institute of America, taking up a six-month course in gemology in New York. They then focused on jewelry manufacturing in Sta. Monica for six months.

Returning from the States, they found out jewelry stores were closing because of the Asian economic crisis. On his own, Jun-Jun went back to the United States and studied some more.

In between his studies, he came home to Manila to help in the interior decoration of their New Manila house. Jun-Jun saw "the fantastic possibilities, and so we added this circular pavilion" which today is the venue for the renowned parties that the Ablazas have become famous for in the last few years.

Before all the parties, Jun-Jun helped organize his brother Marc's wedding. As Jun-Jun now recalls, it was actually a family production in the sense that "we all got into it." It was a highly unconventional wedding, melding together different influences—and it created quite a buzz for Jun-Jun.

His mother Mely is a well-dressed woman, a good dancer and an antique collector who, even as a young wife and mother, loved looking for antiques. "And I always brought along Jun-Jun," she says. "Even when he was still in high school, he gave his suggestions when I was decorating our home."

Jun-Jun, whose birthday falls on the week before Halloween, remembers that his mother would prepare parties with a theme. "But then," she says, "Jun-Jun himself would get my husband's old suits and then stuff these with newspapers and make spooky characters out of them. He hung these in the garden. He was very creative."

He points to his mother as a lasting influence. "She would host parties for her classmates from the UP Law School. And she had themes even then. If it were Chinese, she would buy red paper lanterns." Mely says it's her husband Louie who tones her and Jun-Jun down.

Jun-Jun describes himself as a "loner" who would rather read all those books on style and decorating shipped from the States. He lives alone in a Greenhills condominium unit tastefully decorated with ornate silver furniture, a unit that has been featured in architectural magazines. Here he listens to classical music, designs one-of-a-kind jewelry that he sells in his shop, and contemplates would-be masterpieces. And yet, he also finds time to explore Malate with his friends.

On certain days, Jun-Jun is in his shop, Jun-Jun Ablaza Decorative Style, which occupies a room in the family-owned Contemporary Hotel in Quezon City. Of course, appointments need to be made. Religious icons, collectible books, and works of art form a tableau of timelessness that only Jun-Jun could create.

Today, Jun-Jun designs events at least twice a week. "Sometimes, I am told months in advance. At other times, it would just be a week's notice, or even only three days. I have no time for dilly-dallying, and my creative juices work to the hilt."

For an event like the Opern Ball, which had 1,000 guests, he needed a crew of 25 and started setting up the night before. Another affair that required elaborate preparation was the 25th wedding anniversary of the Villarica family, owners of a pawnshop chain. For this one, the flowers were flown in from Holland.

Jun-Jun's concept for an event takes off from what the hosts want. "Yet, there are times when they just leave everything to me. So, I sometimes take inspiration from a celebrator's favorite, like a flower or a color. Or maybe, the season of the year would suffice, like if it's summer, it could be a tropical island scene. I always try to outdo myself, and to please both the hosts and the expected guests. And I always remember that these events are meant to be personal statements of the hosts and celebrators, and not mine. I just actualize their desires or fantasies, whether spoken or not."

Jun-Jun spares no expense for his grand ideas. But his fees "are not that stiff. A certain amount goes to me from the total cost, but I don't assign a fixed percentage that I would automatically set aside for myself. My reputation matters more. They got me to be their events designer, and they expect a lot from me."

No wonder that the parties that the Ablazas host end up being talked about months after they have been held. A relatively simple one was the christening party of a sibling's child held at the family's circular pavilion. With all the angels hovering, it was described as "celestial."

In many instances, Jun-Jun does not even appear in family photographs, especially the ones taken before a party. "Chances are, I would be too busy to even dress up on time. Or if the picture is taken at home, I would be at the site, a hotel or a club, making last minute improvements."

That's all part of his calling as an events designer. Jun-Jun Ablaza knows exactly what his business is about: "I can make a place beautiful, the way the host wants it. But if he can't make his guests happy, if they don't enjoy being together, and they don't like the company, it's still not a successful party. I hope we all remember that it is the people – not the place, no matter how richly decorated – that makes a party."

East-West elegance: Jun-Jun in the family home's circular pavilion, with a red-and gold table setting of flowers, peacock feathers and an elegant Spanish *manton*

This Week

Art

Chic Chateau, an exhibit of chic elegance in furniture, furnishings and accessories at Shell Canvas Ortigas until today at the third level, The Podium, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City. For details, call 687-4058 to 88.

Of Landscapes and Paper Dolls, a two-woman show by Plet Bolipata and Ivee Olivares-Mellor at the Drawing Room, Metrostar Bldg., Metropolitan Avenue, Makati. Exhibit runs until April 24.

Painted Photographs, an exhibit consisting of monochrome photographs taken by Pep Manalang until April 24 at The Drawing Room, 1007 Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City. For details, call 897-6990.

Positive Lives Caravan: Humanizing HIV/AIDS, a caravan photo exhibit from Japan, Korea, China, India, Bangladesh, Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia and the Philippines at the SM Megamall Bldg. B, Mandaluyong City. Exhibit runs until April 18.

Music

A Helping Hand for an Old Friend, a concert by the Clarion Chamber Ensemble dedicated to radio station dzFE 98.7 FM, the standard bearer for classical music listeners which is facing financial difficulties. The concert is slated at the Francisco Santiago Hall, Equitable PCI Auditorium, Makati on April 18 at 7:30 p.m. Professor Chino Toledo will conduct the Clarion Chamber Ensemble in a work called "Theme Variations and Finale" for four winds and fur strings by American composer Ezra Laderman. For tickets and reservations, call Julia at 844-4172 or David Johnson at 0916-4741860.

Renowned Austrian pianist **Franz Langer** performs a repertoire of classical overtones, operetta music and Broadway hits at the Tivoli of the Mandarin Oriental, Manila until April 20. Show starts at 8 p.m. For inquiries, call 750-8888 ext. 2431/2432.

Onstage

Intramuros Evenings Performing Arts Series features Ballet Manila with Lisa Macuja Elizalde in **Symphony *at Sayaw*** on April 19, 6:30 p.m. at the Puerta Real Gardens. Repertoire includes Classical Symphony, Swan Lake Adagio from Act 2, Harlequinade Pas De Deux, Le Corsaire Pas De Deux, and *Sayaw sa Pamlang* by Agnes Locsin. Admission is free. For inquiries, call 527-2961 or 527-3138.

Atbp

Marymount School in Parañaque offers various academic and non-academic activities for kids this summer. The **Summer Fun program** includes Toddlers' Fun, Webpage Design, Piano Lessons, Creative Bean's Art Workshop, Reading & Math Enhancement, English as a Second Language, Taekwondo, Ballet College Entrance Test Review, and Enrichment Courses for GS students with difficulty in Math, English, Science and Filipino. For details, call 809-4494 loc. 107 and 102.

Join the CCP Arts Conservatory's **Mask Making Workshop** from April 18 to 27, 2-5 p.m. at the MKP Multipurpose Room of the CCP, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. Modules include Paper Mask on April 18, 19, 20, Plaster Mask on April 23, 24, 27, and Epoxy Mask from April 25-27. Open to ages 7 and up. Twenty slots open at P1,500 per module (inclusive of materials, museum and theatre tours, and library with internet use). Avail of discounts when you enroll in more than one module. For details, call Museo at 832-5094 or 832-1125 locals 1508 to 1510.

CARE School in Quezon City invites art enthusiasts, children and adults to join its summer **Art Camp** workshops in painting using pastel, watercolor, acrylic, charcoal, oil and mixed media. Starts on April 22. Call Eleanor at 740-7221 for details.

Personality Enhancement and Make-Over workshop. A series of one-day workshops on beauty, makeup, fashion, grooming, manners and etiquette by Cecile Araneta-Marcos and Ching Aves, April 20 and 27 at the 8th floor function room of Princeville Condominium (S. Laurel St., Mandaluyong) or call 535-2545.

St. Scholastica's College, Manila will host a **Peace Congress** from April 15 to April 19. Second to sixth grade students from the different Association of Benedictine Schools will be immersed in the theme "Peace and the Child: Learning the Ways of Peace." For details, contact Myrna at 524-7686 to 7689 local 499.

Powerbooks Specialty Store offers discounts of up to 50 percent on all favorite titles until April 21. For details, call 844-4455.

National Book Store's Summer Sale offers up to 50 percent on all books until April 21. A Summer Reading Adventure is also offered to kids ages 4 to 9. For inquiries, visit the customer service desk of any NBS branch.

X-manila

The US Embassy sponsors the Philippine tour of **Images from Ground Zero,** a photo exhibit highlighting the horror and heroism of September 11, at the Food and Entertainment Center, Ayala Center Cebu until April 20.

Hole presents ***Makamundong* Folk,**" an earth day free-form folk fest, featuring back to back acoustic performances by classical guitarist Roel Roma and folkman Ricky Salvador of the Kikoy Project on April 20, 5:30 p.m. at Hole on Fields Avenue corner Teodoro Street in AngelesCity.

The Midwives Foundation of the Philippines' first **Midwives Home-Birth Conference** will be held on April 19 and 20, at Venus Park View Hotel, Kisad Road, Baguio City. For particulars, call 633-8948.

Purely Percussion

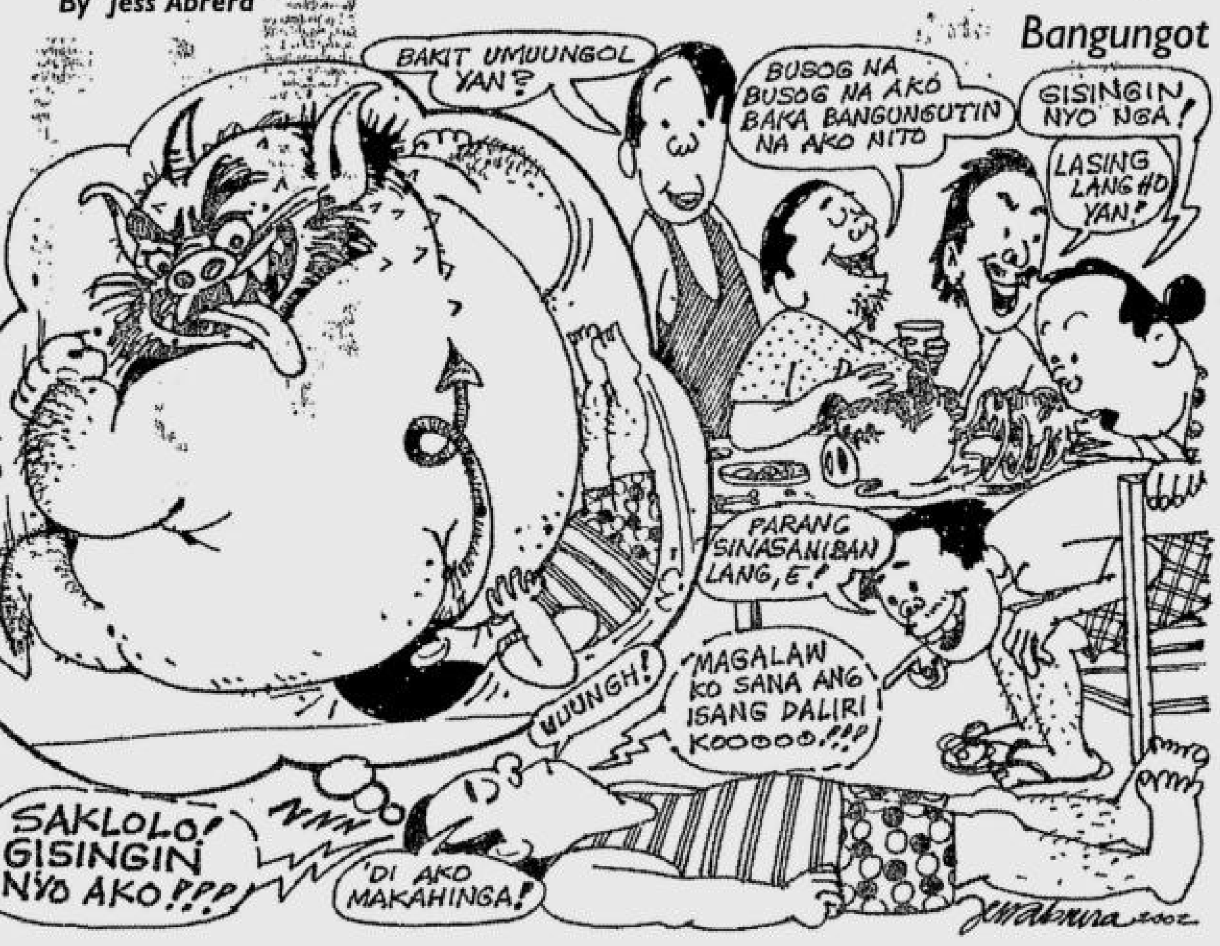
Percaduo rocks the CCP

Percaduo, a young and dynamic Israeli percussion duo, will perform at the CCP Little Theater on April 18 (invitational) and April 20 at 8 p.m. in cooperation with the Embassy of Israel. The duo's repertoire ranges from classical to contemporary works that were written especially for them, like Vladimir Torchinsky's "Paradigma" and B.D. 2000 by noted Israeli composer Oded Zehavi, including original compositions like Adi's "Octabones" for two marimbas, which won a prize at the PAS Percussion Composition Competition. For ticket inquiries, call 832-3878.

Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Bangungot



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GISINGIN NYO NGA!
LASING LANG HO YAN!
PARANG SINASANIBAN LANG, E!
MAGALAW KO SANA ANG ISANG DALIRI KOOOOO!!!
UUUNGH!
SAKLOLO! GISINGIN NYO AKO!!!
NNN
'DI AKO MAKAHINGA!
JWAbrera 2002

...from page 5

While there are doctors who have a knack for confusing patients with scientific terms and medical jargon, Dr. Lesaca takes time to explain his diagnosis – not just to the patient, but to the family. "This is what's called patient education. Part of the cure also lies with how the family will help the patient recover. It's important that the relatives or those closest to the patient understand the sickness.

Dr. Lesaca gives consultations at three offices – at the National Kidney and Transplant Institute, the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center UERMMMC,) and the M-Tech Medical Diagnostic & Therapeutic Center In Makati. But the best part is, his practice is geared towards helping the have-nots. Of course he also has paying patients ("How else can I maintain my clinic?"), but they're outnumbered by those who are indigent. They arrive at his clinic-office, bearing referrals from various people's organizations and cause-oriented groups, asking the doctor to help them.

"The rich and the poor both suffer from emotional and psychological stress – that's part of daily living. The difference is that the rich can pay for the treatment. As they say, among the rich, mentally disturbed *ang tawag;* if they're poor, *may topak*."

Normally, the cost of one session is the equivalent of a minimum wage earner's wages for the day, but Dr. Lesaca doesn't charge his poor patients. And whenever he has samples, he gives out free medicine. "But they would always insist on paying," he scratches his head. He gets paid in terms of produce – "Fish, fruits, vegetables, a dozen eggs. Occasionally I get an *inahin*– the native kind. We had to build a hen house."

Lesaca says that psychiatric treatments generally cost an arm and a leg. "But afterwards, it's the family who goes crazy having to shoulder the costs." Dr. Lesaca wishes that more doctors would take time to understand the socio-economic and cultural dimensions of their patients' lives. For instance, he has had patients who are superstitious. They come from underdeveloped regions where children walk half a day to go to school, or don't go to school at all. "*Duktor,*" the patient's parents would say in Filipino, "Our child became that way because she took a bath while menstruating, or went to sleep with wet hair."

If a doctor cared little to consider the economic and cultural factors, he'd just dismiss the explanation with an impatient wave, and go on writing a prescription without bothering to correct it. Dr. Lesaca, however, goes straight to explaining how superstitions can be harmful. Or sometimes he'd make a joke out of it. "The only bad thing about sleeping with wet hair is getting your pillow wet."

With this constant exposure to the sundry neuroses of Filipinos from all walks of life, it is no surprise that Dr. Lesaca engages the neuroses of Philippine society itself.

"During the First Quarter Storm of the 1970s, I lived in Diliman where the students had put up the Commune. Every day I would see the Metrocom attacking the barricades, trying to haul off demonstrators," he recollects.

It was, however, in 1983 that he had what he calls his "awakening." Ninoy Aquino was assassinated, and the struggle against the Marcos dictatorship was at its boiling point.

In 1986, during the infamous Mendiola Massacre, Dr. Lesaca, along with allied doctors and nurses, helped clean the blood and shrapnel off the wounded farmers and workers who were rushed to the UERMMMC.

These days, Dr. Lesaca is busy planning and attending the activities of the Health Alliance for Democracy (HEAD), an alliance of professionals in the health sector; and Code Red for Good Governance, a formation of health workers and practitioners.

But when he isn't meeting patients, giving lectures and going to the occasional picket against the privatization of public hospitals and health institutions in the country, Dr. Lesaca indulges in scuba diving.

"I have a BS degree in Zoology, and I can label various fish and coral with their scientific names," he says proudly. Whenever he can, he goes diving with eldest daughter Lissa Aireen, 24, an environmental specialist with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. His son, Paolo Marko, 20, is a junior at De la Salle University.

Aside from serious scrabble games with colleagues, scuba diving and snorkeling are his only hobbies. "I haven't had much time to read fiction – I don't have time to finish novels," he says ruefully. "Golf is too expensive – and my farmer-patients are against it, because agricultural lands are being converted to golf courses."

At the end of the day, Dr. Lesaca gives heart-felt advice. "There are so many things to be troubled and depressed about in this country, but there are always, always solutions. These lie with the people themselves. Always think positive – confront the problem and implement the solution to the end. We all should act as doctors to this nation, and the prescription calls for unity, as well as resolve, to treat the social ills."

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Electronic Instrumentation & Control
Electronic Service Technician
Electronics Engineering
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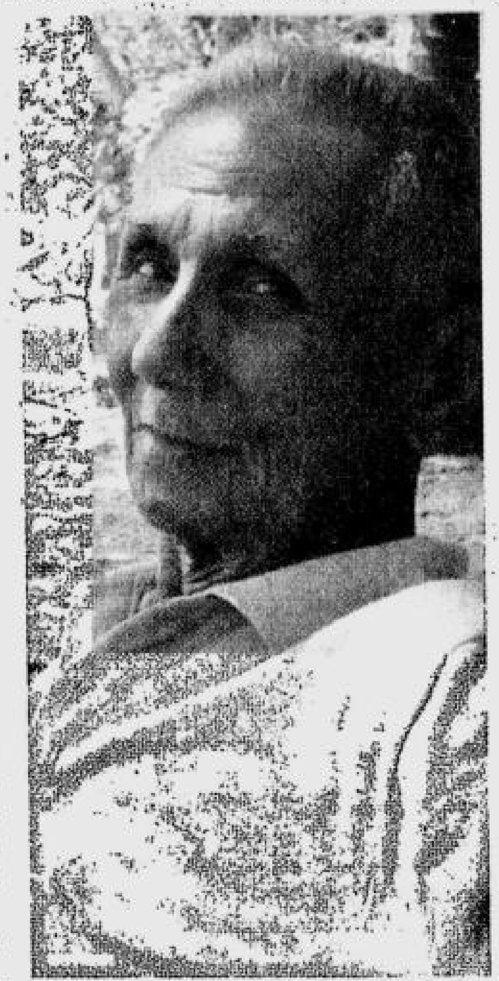
HIGH SCHOOL (YEAR 1 TO 4)

End Page

By Jonathan Best

The War Hero from Panay

Hearing Alex Hontiveros's stories of heroism and simple patriotism in the face of hardship, and the constant threat of torture and violent death, made me wonder if the values he fought so hard for are being passed on to the younger generation



Alex Hontiveros relaxing at the family beachhouse in Matuod, Batangas

THE PANAY River runs through the center of Roxas City. Centuries ago the city was built at the river's mouth to take advantage of the nearby fishing grounds and the natural gateway to northern Panay. The area is noted for its abundant sugar, rice and coconuts. The waters of the Visayan Sea are particularly bountiful in marine life. Fish are plentiful, there are delicious crabs, lobsters and numerous shellfish including the famous translucent "capiz" shell, still used for window and household decorations. A century ago Manuel Roxas was born here when the city was still called Capiz. Roxas was the first Philippine president after independence in 1946. The city took his name shortly after his untimely death in 1948.

I visited Roxas City for the first time last month with my good friend Maan Hontiveros and her father Alex, a surprisingly energetic 81-year-old. The Hontiveros clan hails from Aklan and Capiz, even though many of them have now settled in Manila. The purpose of our trip was to visit one of Alex's brothers, who was temporarily laid up in hospital. While in the province, we also planned to return to some of the sites where Alex had been based as a guerilla in World War II, 57 years ago. Maan and her friend Marissa Floirendo brought along video equipment, and I had a small tape recorder to try to capture Alex's war stories on tape.

Driving around town the first morning Alex pointed out where he and his eight brothers and sisters had learned to ride bikes. We stopped to walk across the gently arching Spanish Bridge where they had loved to roller skate. The bridge leads directly into the town plaza with its colonial church and beautifully restored American Era municipal building. In the 1920s and early '30s, Alex and his brothers would dive from the bridge, when the police weren't looking, into the brackish waters of the Panay River. I wrongly assumed that in those far off days there was no pollution, but Alex reminded me that all the houses along the water used to empty their waste directly into the river, which made swimming a bit of a challenge.

The street where their mother's family house had stood, facing the river, is now named Justice Hontiveros Street after their father who was one of the first Filipino judges to sit on the Supreme Count. I brought along an old photo of Capiz taken from the bridge around 1920, which shows a row of stately *bahay na bato* facing the river. Alex identified one of them as the Pardo house, which belonged to his mother's parents. The original house was burned in World War II and has been replaced by a modern 1950s bungalow, and is still lived in by one of the younger Hontiveros brothers.

Heading east out of town towards Pontevedra and then south towards Sara, where Alex was based for much of the war, we listened, entranced, by his stories. He had been in his last year of graduate school studying chemical engineering in Manila when war broke out in December 1941. He and his older brother Lenny drove ambulances in Manila until the Japanese arrived. Alex, Lenny and their younger brother Rene headed for Capiz in Panay when Manila was occupied. When the resistance was organized in Panay, Alex was appointed captain of an intelligence unit of the Philippine guerrillas fighting under General Macario Peralta. Lenny returned to Manila and assisted his sister Daisy and her husband Bert Avellana with their resistance work at the Avenue Theater. He was arrested by the Japanese and interrogated for weeks in Fort Santiago. In the first months of the war there was an erroneous report that Alex had been killed near Cebu, which ironically helped protect his family from further Japanese harassment.

The war in the Pacific went badly for the Allies the first years after Pearl Harbor. The guerrillas on Panay were charged with keeping up the resistance to Japanese occupation as best they could. They blew up bridges and generally harassed the Japanese who were brutalizing the local population. The guerillas gathered military intelligence regarding troop movements and Japanese shipping and transmitted it to MacArthur's forces, which were regrouping in Australia. By 1944, the tide began to turn and American submarines started arriving with weapons, ammunition and medicine and a few luxuries like cigarettes and chocolate. Peralta's guerillas had to plan the rendezvous with the submarines and quickly unload their cargo into *bancas* at night before Japanese aircraft could spot them. Prolonged torture and execution awaited any Filipino caught working for the resistance and contacting the Allied Forces.

General MacArthur returned to Leyte in October of 1944 and Alex's intelligence unit was ordered to prepare for the liberation of Iloilo from Japanese occupation. The city was surrounded by the end of the year and Alex's unit helped evacuate civilians in anticipation of the battle for the city. One of the evacuees was Edith Beloso, the pretty sister of Alex's intelligence assistant Charlie. Despite the impending battle and the uncertainties of war, romance began to bloom for Alex and Edith.

On January 5, 1945, the battle for Iloilo began in earnest and Alex's regiment was the first to attack from the northeast. The Japanese were garrisoned in the municipal building and the Javellosa residence by the foot of the bridge in Jaro. In fierce fighting which went on for 48 hours, Alex's men drove the Japanese out of Jaro toward Iloilo. Much of the heaviest fighting took place at night with bullets, shells and grenades flying in all directions down darkened streets.

The Japanese counterattacked after midnight the second day, and only the light from burning buildings made it possible for the guerillas to locate the advancing enemy units. There were many casualties, including Alex's good friend Arthur Ledesma, who was hit by a Japanese grenade on a darkened side street. When the smoke finally cleared, much of Jaro lay in ruins. With the final defeat of the Japanese in sight, Alex decided he was actually going to make it through the war alive, and it was time to propose to Edith. They were married on March 9 and returned to Manila six months later to start a family.

We went as far south as Sara, but for Alex the town had changed completely; few if any structures remained from before the war. On our return we stopped at San Dionisio just before sunset and looked out across the beautiful Visayan Sea dotted with familiar islands Alex had used as his hideouts, arms depot, and radio outposts. By lucky happenstance we came across another veteran of Alex's age, who remembered the history of those almost forgotten days and the names of long dead comrades in arms. It was hard for those of us born after the war to image the life and death struggles that had taken place in that incredibly serene setting more than 57 years ago.

Hearing Alex Hontiveros's stories of heroism and simple patriotism in the face of hardship and the constant threat of torture and violent death was very moving. It made me wonder if the values of love of country, freedom and human dignity which he fought so hard for are being passed on to the younger generation amid the avalanche of contrived sound bites and legalisms spewing forth from today's politicians and media pundits. Hopefully the younger generation will put aside their MTV, their malling and their "extreme" adventure sports – and spend a little more time talking to their grandparents.

Comments welcome <endpage2000@hotmail.com>.

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